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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

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LAST CALL for Fire Chief

Alan Roy retiring after 45 years of service to PFD

By Michel Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

PALMER — While many 16-year-olds in the 1970s spent much of their free time in hot pursuit of good times, Alan Roy was more interested in rushing to hot spots.

An auxiliary Palmer firefighter for two years, Roy joined the on-call force when he turned 18 in 1976 and never looked back. Rising through the ranks over the years,

CHIEF | page 10



Longtime Palmer Fire Chief Alan Roy (center) received a service plaque recently for his years on the Service Commission, which is appointed by the Governor. Roy, shown with Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey (left) and Chairman Greg Burns, served on the commission for nine years and is retired from the fire department effective July 1.

Alan Roy, back when he was captain of the Palmer Fire Dept.

WILD MEETING

Public rallies around Officer Olszta after Select Board vote

By Michael Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

BRIMFIELD — In a raucous, sometimes chaotic meeting Monday night, the Select Board, with two new members, seemed to leave the town without a functional police force for a time, expelled an audience member, prevented others from speaking, and may have left itself vulnerable to legal action.

The meeting had barely ended before angry residents launched a recall drive that may have to wait until fall but nonetheless gained momentum through the power of social media. By Tuesday morning, a popular Brimfield community Facebook group was lighting up with comments and discussions among those who either attended the meeting or watched the live stream on Brimfield.tv.

All that at a meeting that wasn't supposed to happen.

Pat Leaming and Martin Kelly won the two open Select Board terms in last week's election. The first post-election Select Board meeting was scheduled for next week, when the board was going to re-organize. For reasons still unexplained, the meeting was moved up a week with the minimum required two-days notice and

it didn't take long for it to go off the rails.

The main issue was whether or not to re-appoint nine police officers. One of them, Ryan Olszta, apparently expected less than full support from the new-look board. Olszta, a former selectman, has been active on Facebook, posting about hostility directed at him that could affect his status.

It remains unclear the source of the hostility, but Olszta and some residents have made references to unspecified allegations. No formal charges or hearings have been held about any alleged conduct issues Olszta could face.

Neither Olszta nor any board members with the exception of former Board of Selectmen Chairman Michael Doyle could be reached for comment after the meeting despite messages left by voice mail, email, and text. Doyle referred questions to new Chairwoman Suzanne Collins — who did not respond to a message left at the Select Board office and does not have any other contact information listed on the town's website.

At one point, the board apparently tabled the police officers' re-appointments. On paper, that would seem to leave only Police

RALLIES | page 6

SUMMER PROGRAM

Kids Corner returns July 6 for month-long session

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER — Things are getting busy at the Old Mill Pond "Kids' Corner."

The fourth annual summer program for preschool-age kids is scheduled to begin July 6 and go through Aug. 6.

Kids' Corner Program Director Cathy Les said each week features a new theme and a slew of activities.

"One of the themes we're offering this summer will be a carnival week," Les said.

"Each day will be a fun-filled day. They come in the morning can come to get breakfast, get into their groups and partake in some activities. We offer sports, water play, movies other fun activities all day long."

Registration opened July 1. The program will also be offering weekly special guests, a free lunch program, and extended morning and afternoon hours. Sixty-one children have been enrolled so far.

Kids' Corner is also preparing to roll out a new early childhood development pilot program that was first announced and approved during the May 19 Palmer Public School Committee meeting.

"Last year, we had 75 kids enrolled in our before and after school program," Les said.

"It's still a growing pro-

KIDS CORNER | page 3

GREEN DAYS COMING

National Grid customers can sign up for solar and save

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

BRIMFIELD — For residents who want to tap into solar energy for their homes without installing panels, a new electricity option is coming online.

The Brimfield Community Shared Solar Project is scheduled to be available to all National Grid customers — it's not restricted to Brimfield — by September.

Anyone traveling on Route 20 since early spring probably noticed the solar farm under construction in a field at 93 Palmer Road on property that's been in former Selectwoman Susan Hilker's family for generations.

"After I retired, I had time to devote to it and started working on something that would make sense for the town," Hilker said.

"I'm really hoping the people of Brimfield and the people in the

surrounding area will be able to benefit from clean energy and help our environment at the same time. The land here was purchased by my grandfather in 1904 and it has been an active family farm ever since. This one particular field has just the right lineup for a solar project and will hopefully work with everybody in the area."

Bob Clarke, president of 621 Energy, said this project has been in the works since 2018, since it had to go through a rigorous application process in compliance with regulations. He said joining the program carries no risk for anyone who wants to use more clean energy while saving money on their electric bill.

"(Residents) can participate for up to 20 years in the program, but they also can get out if they move outside of National Grid territory," Clarke said. "It's also important to know that there's no fee to join this

program."

There's another incentive. Clarke also said for every person who signs up for the program, Energy 261 will be donating \$50 to a Massachusetts nonprofit organization of the customer's choice.

"The nonprofit is decided by whoever signs up," Clarke said.

"We've actually tried to sign up some nonprofits to be members of the program, which we've had success with."

How it works

Each month, customers will receive a credit on their National Grid electric bill to offset the charge from BCS that will be 10% lower than the credit. For example, a \$100 NG credit would mean a customer owes BCS \$90.

Should a customer move from the area, they can transfer their

SOLAR | page 3



Construction began in May on the Brimfield Community Shared Solar Project facility off Route 20. When it's completed, local National Grid customers can sign up for solar power and reduce their electric bills.

BIKE RACE



Courtesy photo

Bikers participating in a past Firecracker Early Morning Circuit Race at Palmer Motorsports Park. This year's will be held on July 5, at 9 a.m.

Palmer Motorsports will host bicycle race

*Proceeds benefit
Concerns of Police
Survivors*

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

PALMER — There will be a race Monday, July 5, at the Palmer Motorsports Park, but it will look a lot different than the normal workout sports car clubs give the track during the season.

The track is at 58 West Ware Road in Palmer, practically on the town lines of Ware and Warren.

At 9 a.m., on Monday, bicycle riders of all sizes, shapes, fitness levels, and skills will line up together with their \$20 registration fees going to the New England Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors.

"You do not have to be a racer to do this," said organizer Matt Domnarski, of the Firecracker Early Morning Circuit Race. "You just have to be a racer to win it."

Domnarski, a retired State Trooper and an avid bicyclist,

has organized five past races. It's a cause near and dear to his heart — helping those family members who have lost a police officer to a death in the line of duty — through the New England Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors. Having seen the grief of police officers' family members after their loved one is killed in the line of duty, he thought it would be the perfect charity.

The cause may be serious, but the event itself is blast, he said.

"It's 2.3 miles and it's twisty and hilly — it's great," Domnarski said.

He wouldn't be able to put on the race if it weren't for the generosity of the Palmer Motorsports Park, which generally charges \$20,000 to rent the track for an event, he said, but provides the track at no cost for this race.

"When I heard there was going to be a track here, I came to Fred and asked him, and he didn't even hesitate," Domnarski said, referring to track owner Fred Ferguson.

"We really enjoy being part of the community and giving back

RACE | page 6





SHOES

This Maine Coon kitty is named Shoes and she's a petite 20 pounds. "She thinks she's a princess – and sits like one, too!" Maureen of Holland says.

Which animals make your life special? We feature your pets every week here and on Facebook. All animals welcome! Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mharrison@turley.com.

Work to repair sinkhole on S. Main nearly complete

PALMER — Town officials said this week they expect the road work that has caused a detour around South Main Street near CVS to be completed by the weekend.

A boulder beneath the road damaged a drainpipe, causing a large sinkhole to appear. The road has been closed this past week while repair work was underway, but the project had to pause Wednesday, allowing traffic to pass through. The work was more extensive than first anticipated.

"The contractor needs to replace more drainpipe than expected," Town Manager Ryan McNutt said.

"We have to replace as much damaged pipe (as needed) to prevent future sinkholes."

Cat trapper keeps feral colonies in check

About 75 cats trapped

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

BRIMFIELD – Here Today Adopted Tomorrow, located at 180 Sturbridge Road, is a nonprofit animal sanctuary that relies on the compassion and dedication of their volunteers to help protect and control feral cat colonies in the area.

One such volunteer is Sturbridge resident, Lynn Hutchinson. A "trapper" for the past 12 years, Hutchinson has been assisting HTAT with capturing feral cats for about three years.

Hutchinson, an avid cat lover, first began trapping feral cats while she was working at a previous job. "I started in New York, where there was feral cat population out of control," she said. When she moved to Massachusetts, she began looking around for a rescue that offered a "trap-neuter-return" or "TNR" method of reducing feral cat population.

The TNR method involves trapping feral cats using traditional and/or drop traps, bringing them to be

neutered or spayed, then returning them to the location where they were trapped from. "I wanted to be dealing with people that have huge problems with feral cats," Hutchinson said. "The program at HTAT is outstanding and they rely on volunteers and grants." Hutchinson has been helping to TNR the second of two large feral cat populations in Ware since last year.

Cats can begin reproducing at around six months of age and can have about two to three litters of kittens a year. Each litter can produce on average four kittens, quickly causing feral cat colonies to grow unmanageable in size. Overpopulation can lead to lower quality of life for the cats and increase the spread of disease and illness. Feeding a large colony of feral cats also places a significant financial burden on the people trying to care for them.

At one of the feral cat colonies in Ware, the owner had to go into a nursing home and their health care proxy and neighbors reached out to HTAT to make sure the cats were safe and cared for. With their help, Hutchinson was able to trap 32 feral cats on the prop-



Here Today Adopted Tomorrow volunteer Lynn Hutchinson holds a kitten that was trapped in a stonewall on a farm in Ware. Photo Courtesy of Here Today Adopted Tomorrow

TRAPPER | page 8

Holland voters elect new office holders

HOLLAND — James Whalen and Kyle Merolla both won multiple offices in Holland's recent town elections.

Whalen defeated Merolla for a three-year term on the Select Board 181 votes to 96.

Also elected was Brock Jenkins, who won a three-year term on the Board of Health, 156-188 over David Kowalski.

Several candidates won office by default after running uncontested.

Merolla did win a five-year term on the Planning Board with 136 votes to 130 for Janice Brigham and Whalen won a second office, a three-year term on the Planning Board, appearing on the ballot alone. Merolla completed the hat trick after running uncontested for water commissioner and getting 214 votes.

Amanda Fusco-Joppas and Candace Green both won three-year terms on the School committee with 155 and 217 votes, respectfully.

Town Clerk Jennifer Mott said there's no local law that prevents residents from holding multiple elected offices as long as there's no conflict of interest.

LIGHTNING STRIKES



Palmer Lightning won the 2021 Bracket Championship with a 16-15 win over South Hadley. The team, with players in the grades two to four age group, went 11-4 for the season. Pictured here are (front, from left): Riley Presho (22), Cole Biron (9), Ben Miner (4), Noel McKee (6), Dylan Maloney (7), Max Wilkerson (5), Mason Cowher (1), Kaden Wray (8), and Levi Zajac (2); Second row (from left): Braeden Swiatlowski (88), Zack Marciniak (14), Kaleb Rodriguez (28), RJ Perkins (11), and Camden Kimball (26). Not pictured is team member Mason Kilham. The coaches are Matt Biron, Rob Presho, Tristan Wilkerson, Jared Marciniak, and head coach Mike Swiatlowski. Courtesy photo

Baystate Mary Lane Satellite Emergency Facility Update

The Baystate Mary Lane Satellite Emergency Facility is closed. All future emergency department services in the Baystate Health Eastern Region will be provided at Baystate Wing Hospital, located at 40 Wright Street in Palmer.

We value and appreciate your ongoing trust in Baystate Health.

For more information on the closure of the satellite emergency facility and alternative options for emergency care, please visit BaystateHealth.org/EasternRegion

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

DEADLINE

The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at mharrison@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

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Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at mharrison@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

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Gilbert Players schedule “Annie” auditions for July 12 and 13

HARDWICK – The Gilbert Players of Hardwick are thrilled to announce audition dates for the musical production of “ANNIE”. Because of the lack of holiday celebrations last year, this will be an Over The Top production of one of America’s best loved shows. The magic of the upcoming holiday will be a visual delight as soon as the curtains open.

All parts and characters are open. Annie could be between ages 8 and 14, but she must be a strong singer and actress. All those trying out for the part will need to sing “Tomorrow” for the audition. Other orphan ages will be between 7 and 15 years, and will need to be strong singers and character actors as well as be good dancers.

The person playing Daddy Warbucks will not be required to be bald, but must have a strong and commanding presence on stage. He must also be a good singer and be able to show lots of emotions.

The person playing Miss Hannigan needs to command the stage at all times, and even the audience should be afraid of her. The person must also be a strong singer and strike an even balance between nasty and nastier. Those

seeking the role should be strong singers between the ages of 25 and 60.

There are many lead roles in this musical. Grace Ferrell, Rooster and Lily, Bert Healy, Roosevelt, and especially a strong support chorus. All of these parts require singing. There will also be auditions for dancers of any age, ranging from moderate to trained abilities.

The Players welcome back performers from previous shows and offer open arms to anyone wanting to share their talents on stage. Anyone interested in auditioning and becoming a part of its theatrical performing family, please join them on Monday, July 12, and Tuesday, July 13, at 6 p.m., at The Cultural Center at the Eagle Hill School 242 Old Peter-sham Road in Hardwick.

Anyone auditioning who would like copies of the audition songs or have any questions and want to be added to our information site, please call Linda at 413-477-8355.

It will be performed on Nov. 19 to 28. Rehearsals begin the first part of September. Rehearsals will be Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.

Smola backs sales tax holiday

BOSTON – State Rep. Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that Massachusetts residents will soon be able to enjoy a two-day reprieve from the state sales tax, thanks to the Legislature’s approval of a sales tax holiday for mid-August.

“This is great news for Massachusetts,” said Smola. “This has been an unbelievably difficult year for local retailers and hopefully this tax incentive will result in a big weekend for sales.”

During the sales tax holiday, businesses will be allowed to waive the 6.25% state sales tax on most consumer purchases totaling \$2,500

or less. The sales tax will still apply to all telecommunications, tobacco, utilities, motor vehicle, motorboat, and meals purchases, as well as any single item with a price in excess of \$2,500.

Massachusetts first offered a one-day sales tax holiday in 2004 before expanding it to a two-day event the following year. With the exception of 2009, the state has offered a sales tax holiday every summer during the month of August since 2004. This year’s sales tax holiday will be the twelfth one offered in the past 12 years.

For additional information please contact Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or 617-722-2100.

Do you remember?



This photo of Palmer Girl Scouts, submitted by Barbara Stone, was taken during the Memorial Day parade in 1952. Shown here (from left) are: Lorraine Katseoris, Yvette LeBlanc, Lee Ofstroski, Carole Shunaman, Judith Thatcher, Simonne LeBlanc, Virginia Sird, Leader Mrs. Glae, and Margaret Garabedian. Courtesy photo

WRITE ABOUT IT

‘People are anxious to get out and start living again’

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

MONSON – If there’s anything better than traveling and experiencing new sights and cultures, it’s immortalizing it in your own words.

Founder and CEO of Travelnitch Amanda Renna invites young residents in the area to participate in the non-profit’s upcoming travel writing workshops this summer. Programs will be held in Wales, Monson, and Ware.



Amanda Renna

“Now that the pandemic is coming to a close, I think people are anxious to get out and start living life again,” Renna said. “I thought it was a good opportunity this summer to start an ‘on the road’ series which is something I’ve been thinking about for a while now.”

A travel writing workshop will be held July 12-14.

“We’ll be exploring different locations to learn what it takes to craft a great travel story,” Renna said.

“A brief lesson will introduce students to travel writing as a profession, giving them an opportunity to examine the various styles of travel writing. Together we will enjoy a leisurely hike, taking notes about our experience along the way. Students will then draft their own travel story, turning those observations into words that inspire.”

Renna said this opportunity can allow teens to tap into their creative side and pick up an interest in travel.

The summer festivities do not stop in July. On Aug. 28, the nonprofit will be hosting a capture the flag fundraiser.

“We’ve already had great support from community sponsors,” Renna said.

“We’ve also gotten a lot of cool prizes sent in from places such as the Southwick’s Zoo. We’re trying to get families to come out here and have a really good time.”

Other sponsors include Monson Savings Bank and Main Street Tavern.

At the event, participants will be traveling around Monson to capture flags representing different countries around the



Travelnitch, a not-for-profit, is launching a travel writing workshop in several area towns.

world. “There’s 10 flags in total,” Renna said.

“It’s fun for all ages. Whether they are young kids, older kids or people even want to participate individually or with friends, it is really for everyone.”

Workshop places/dates

The writing workshops will be held:

- 10 a.m.-noon, July 12, at Quabbin Reservoir, Ware
- 10 a.m.-noon July 13, at Conant Brook Dam, Monson
- 10 a.m.-noon July 14, at Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary, Wales

“We’ll explore each of these locations to learn what it takes to craft a great travel story,” Renna said.

“A brief lesson will introduce students to travel writing as a profession, giving them an opportunity to examine the various styles of travel writing. Together we’ll enjoy a leisurely hike, taking notes about our experience along the way. Students will then draft their own travel story, turning those observations into words that inspire.”

The cost is \$35 per person and includes all materials, but space is limited so early registration is encouraged. For more information. Go to travelnitch.org.

KIDS CORNER | from page 1

gram and the kids love it. They spend so much time with us as we do what we can to make sure that they are happy, fed, and are doing all those wonderful things that their parents just do not have the time for anymore. I also

have a wonderful staff that love coming to work every day and it makes all the difference in the world.”

Interested? Register by calling 413-896-9756 or emailing kidscorner@palmer.school.org.

SOLAR | from page 1

membership to another account in National Grid territory or cancel their membership by providing a 90-day notice.

To receive updates on this project and to learn more about it, email BrimfieldCSS@621energy.com.

Congratulations Alyssa Ricci

We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. Alyssa will be attending Sacred Heart University in the Fall pursuing her degree in Finance.

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POSTPONEMENT:
We are so sorry but our May Scrabble Night and our May Basket Raffle will be postponed. At this time we are uncertain as to when they will be rescheduled.

POSITION AVAILABLE

TFL is seeking a **Director of Adult Literacy/Operations Officer** who is passionate about helping adult learners meet their educational goals. The successful candidate will work closely with TFL’s Board of Trustees, tutors, students, volunteers, and community businesses/organizations of the Quabog Hills region and surrounding areas. General responsibilities will include: • Recruiting, matching, and training volunteer tutors. • Organizing and administering all programs of adult instruction, such as ESL, Reading, Writing, Math, HiSET, Computer Skills, and many more! • Being aware of community educational needs and interests.

- Providing educational guidance to assist adult learners in meeting their educational goals.
- Coordinating fundraising and promotional efforts with a team of volunteers.

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Viewpoints

Editorial

Brimfield meeting spectacle should be a wake-up call

Monday night’s Brimfield Select Board meeting bordered on the surreal. Thankfully, you don’t get to say that often when commenting on a small-town public meeting of officials elected to conduct public business in a fair, orderly process in which ordinary citizens should have the reasonable expectation of being heard. But that was not the spectacle that unfolded Monday night. That the meeting was hastily moved up a week was a portent. It remains unexplained why the board, with two newly-elected members, didn’t want to wait for the original date two weeks after the election to re-organize.

Whatever the reason, the board’s unapologetic move to cut off public comment when dozens of residents waited to speak out against a move to deny police officer Ryan Olszta re-appointment – and demanded an opportunity for Olszta to receive due process while some shadowy allegations about his performance circulate – is antithetic to the idea of public meetings.

It’s ironic the meeting occurred so close to Independence Day. At the core of what we celebrate on July 4 is the declaration that citizens of the American colonies were entitled to a voice when those in charge make decisions that affect their lives. Who knows – if King George III paid serious attention a couple of years earlier, there may not have been a war for independence. At least not for a while longer.

Some people predicted Olszta would be sacked as part of some sort of political vendetta. Others allege he did something that disqualifies him from serving on the Brimfield police force. Both, or neither, could be true. We don’t know, because there’s been no formal inquiry in which both sides can lay out facts and make their case. There’s no public record to study. Until that happens, it seems wholly unreasonable to deny a public employee, a first responder with wide public support, his job.

The only remedy for clearing the air is an internal investigation and a hearing at which the public has an opportunity to hear testimony and offer testimony. Olszta deserves a chance to face his accuser and argue on his own behalf. That’s how due process works. It’s what our country’s legacy is built on.

That the meeting Monday night devolved into near dysfunction and left some residents angry enough to begin the recall process should be a wake-up call. For starters, elections have consequences. If you were unhappy with what you saw Monday night but didn’t vote last week, keep that in mind for next time.

Biden is right to redefine infrastructure

By Jason Andringa
Guest columnist

President Biden is in ongoing talks to discuss his multi-trillion-dollar infrastructure plan. Ever since its release, critics have claimed that many aspects of the plan have nothing to do with infrastructure.

However, that isn’t really fair. Today’s economy requires the definition of infrastructure to go beyond traditional transit systems like roads and bridges. In fact, the Cambridge Dictionary defines “infrastructure” as the “basic systems and services that a country or organization uses in order to work effectively.”

This definition opens up the concept of infrastructure to include the things that make society function – allowing workers to do their jobs, businesses to grow, and people to transfer knowledge and information.

The traditional examples of infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and railways are hugely important. The delays caused by traffic jams alone cost the economy more than \$120 billion every year in lost productivity.

But we need to invest in more than traditional infrastructure. We need to invest in the systems that move business, people, innovation, and communication forward.

Covid-19 merely accelerated a shift in digitizing our world. Yet nearly 15 percent of U.S. households still lack high-speed internet. That hampers productivity. Modern infrastructure also goes beyond digitization and broadband. It’s about how people are powered. Constructing solar, windfarms, and building a network of electric vehicle charging stations would make our economy more resilient to the changing climate.

Sea levels are rising and weather patterns are changing. As the intensity and frequency of droughts, hurricanes, and floods increases, so does the cost of recovering from these crises. Those disasters displace workers. After Hurricane Sandy in 2012, more than 150,000 workers filed for unemployment. And last year, wildfires in California displaced more than 50,000 people from their homes.



Smitten over tuberous begonias

Every year about this time I begin to admire my neighbor’s tuberous begonias. She always hangs beautiful, overflowing hanging baskets on shepherd’s hooks under a tree off her porch. From the road at least, it looks like this year’s color selections are yellow and coral. Admittedly, I have an agenda here! She typically gives the pots to me to overwinter at the end of the season instead of throwing them away. I appreciate that she knows my weakness for the delicate, “tissue paper” flowers. They are so gorgeous, reminiscent of cabbage roses in day glow colors and pretty pastels. Even though I have three pots from previous years that I’ve been overwintering with success, I will certainly have room for a couple more should she ask. Just like the famed cat lady would say: “What’s two more?”

One thing about tuberous begonias: although they look like succulents with fleshy stems, they hate hot weather; that is why keeping them out of direct sun is so important. Strong sunlight will literally burn holes in the leaves. It’s best to place plants in a location that gets either morning or late afternoon sun. They also differ from succulents in that they like consistent moisture. One trick to keep flowers coming feed is to feed them with a high phosphorous, low nitrogen liquid fertilizer every two weeks. If you are looking

to purchase fertilizer, find one that has a high middle number, and a low first number in the fertilizer analysis of N-P-K.

For a couple years straight I had a plant that grew in a four-inch pot. Although it was flowering when I bought it, I wondered why it never produced much more than those first few flowers. It’s because the pot was too small! Make sure that you give the plant ample room. After transplanting this specimen into an eight-inch pot, it is doing much better and is budding nicely. Another thing that is interesting about begonias is the fact that they produce male and female flowers! Take a closer look at your plants and you will see frilly male flowers, and single female flowers. I don’t mind having both types on my plants, but there are some folks that pinch off all the female flowers so that the frilly flowers dominate the pot.

Now, just how do you keep begonias from year to year? Once frost is in the air I will begin to withhold water; this will start the dormancy process. When the stems separate from the tubers, remove the container and shake away extra soil. Cure the tubers in the sun for a few days, then, store them in open boxes of dry peat moss in a location that will remain about 45 to 50 degrees throughout the winter. They should be pre-started for next season by March 1st. And remember, choose a pot that is big enough.

Sometimes I proceed with the lazy person’s approach to overwintering. I simply

Letters to the Editor

Monson Fire Dept. needs upgraded facility

Monson has an urgent need to repair and enlarge its Fire Department building at its current location or relocate to another town property site. Its residents should support the excellent firefighters and paramedics they depend on.

Of course, increased real estate taxes would be required, but that cost would be at least partially offset by the expected increased numbers of home builders moving into Monson from surrounding areas. That increase probably would increase a number of new businesses which, in turn, means more tax dollars.

Expansion of Monson’s Fire Department would have an advantageous domino effect.

Angela Lovett
Monson



withhold water, let the foliage fall off and store the pot, tubers still in the soil. If I am feeling ambitious in late winter I will remove the tubers and replant them into fresh soil and then begin watering them. If not, I will just start watering the old pot soil and all. Within a couple of weeks the plant starts to sprout; just like magic! Just be forewarned that this second approach will probably need additional fertilizer to keep flowers coming because the previous years’ soil is likely tired out.

For now, enjoy tuberous begonias in all their glory, and if you are up for it come fall, try your hand at overwintering them.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

Social Security Matters

Can I get a higher benefit now because I’m older?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I started getting Social Security at age 62, and I am now 77. Can I get a higher benefit now that I’m older? Signed: Needy Senior

Dear Needy Senior: Probably not. When you first start collecting your Social Security retirement benefits (e.g., at age 62 or any other age) your Social Security benefit amount is permanently established and will change thereafter only if:

·A Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) is granted (which is usually done annually, starting with your payment in January of each year). There have only been 3 years in the last four decades that a COLA increase didn’t automatically occur. This year’s COLA increase was 1.3%.

·You later became eligible for a higher spousal benefit because your husband started collecting benefits after you first claimed, and your benefit amount at your full retirement age (FRA) was less than 50% of your husband’s FRA benefit amount.

·You later became eligible for a higher survivor benefit because your husband passed away and his Social Security benefit was more than you were receiving (you would need to apply separately for your survivor benefit).

·You had later earnings which were higher than any of the 35 years over your lifetime used to originally compute your benefit when you first applied. Past years earnings are adjusted for inflation, so original earnings amounts in prior years are increased to today’s dollar value to see if your recent earnings are higher.

If you are working, Social Security monitors your earnings (and your contributions through payroll taxes) every year to see if you are due a benefit increase and, if appropriate, it is automatically given. COLA increases are also automatically given effective with each December’s benefit (paid in January) if such an increase is appropriate due to inflation as measured by the national Consumer Price Index. So, the only other possible way your current benefit could be increased now is if 1) you didn’t claim a spousal benefit when you were eligible and you are still eligible because your husband is still living, or, 2) your husband is now deceased, and you didn’t apply for a high-

er survivor benefit you were entitled to when he died. If either of those are true, then you should contact Social Security to request your higher benefit.

You do not, however, get a benefit increase simply because you are now older than you were when you first claimed Social Security. COLA will slightly increase your benefit automatically most years, but unless one or more of the other conditions above apply, your benefits won’t change further as you age.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit the AMAC website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

Reflecting on our freedoms this July 4

Across our great nation in teeming cities and in local communities, the sights and sounds of Independence Day fireworks are already being seen and heard! Brilliant night sky displays amaze us with rocket-bursting, kaleidoscopic splendors and wonders!

With fewer COVID-19 restraints and more public seating freedoms, there is a re-awakening to celebrating our individual freedoms along with recognizing and honoring our nation’s independence.

Opened parks and backyard July 4 picnics will be bringing families and friends together again. These gatherings are more reasons to respectfully celebrate freedoms. Grills and fire pits will be center stage at patriotic-themed cookouts and picnics. And, toasting s’mores made with graham crackers, marshmallows and melted chocolate squares, will please every age group and all sweet-tooth appetites.

Throughout our country, flagpoles will

wave red-white-and-blue flags at full staff honoring Independence Day. For weeks, stars and striped décor has been beautifying house doors, porches, fences, sheds, garages and yards.

Meanwhile, our national and personal liberties are also being reflected upon by millions of our nation’s military servicemen and woman as they serve, as well as our heroic veterans as they volunteer in so many ways, and as some yesteryear heroes sit while reflecting in rocking chairs at home or in a residence. Each one knows the rigorous trainings and the sacrificial costs of freedoms. Many have had family or colleagues pay the ultimate price.

They can truly imagine and fathom the costs, climate and conditions involved in the battles for America’s independence.

The Preamble of the Declaration of Independence of our United State reads: “We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by

their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

As we reflect on the freedoms that we have inherited, but were paid for by sacrifice, may we re-affirm our respect and patriotic appreciation for all the previous heroes and battles that provided our current, every-day liberties. Let’s refocus any take-it-for-granted attitudes and any complacent lifestyles. Let’s be grateful. Thanksgiving is thanks living.

After the final fireworks display, and the picnic is over, in the stillness that fills the cooler night air, and as the stars and planets array the spheres above, may we reverently reflect on the lives that gave us freedoms: Life, Liberty. Pursuing happiness.

Allow the brilliance of their lives to emerge from obscurity’s deepest trenches.

During the upcoming Fourth of July weekend, take some time pausing and reflecting on our freedoms the date represents. Then, totally, absolutely, and energetically enjoy all the patriotic flag-waving festivities and gatherings!

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Journal Register welcomes readers to participate in this year’s election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to mharrison@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday’s newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Michael Harrison at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor’s Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to: The Journal Register Letter to the Editor 24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069, or by e-mail to: mharrison@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

The Journal Register

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In the classroom

Former Warren resident graduates from HCC

By Chris Yurko
Special correspondent

HOLYOKE – Todd Cummings got his first taste of restaurant life at the age 15. That's when he started working at Howard's Drive-In in West Brookfield, Mass., not far from his home in Warren.

For Cummings, high school was a slog. He graduated with a GPA of 1.64. By then, he'd decided that cooking, not college, provided a more promising path forward.

"I was street smart, not so much school smart," he says. "I think I passed all my English classes with a D-minus."

After many years and a long succession of restaurant jobs, Cummings added "restaurant owner" to his career plan.

"You put me in the kitchen, I'm good," he says. "I can cook. I can run a kitchen team."

Where he lacked confidence, though, was on the business side of running a restaurant – accounting, marketing and real estate. For that, he turned to Holyoke Community College.

"Given the failure rate of restaurants," he says, "I want to be fully prepared."

Three years later, Cummings, now 37, graduated from HCC on Saturday, June 5, with honors and his associate degree in hospitality management. In September, the Northampton resident will continue to study business and hospitality at the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

"I feel good," Cummings said late last month. "I got a lot out of HCC."

Cummings had faced some steep hurdles when he started. For one thing, he didn't have a car and quickly realized the buses he relied on during the day didn't run after the classes he was taking at night and so he would need to budget money from his day job to pay for Uber rides back to his Northampton apartment.

Having been out of school for so long, he leaned heavily on his adviser, Lori Wayson, coordinator of HCC's New Directions for Adult Learners program. "Lori was my one-stop shop," he said. "She told me who to talk to and who to see, she helped me with financial aid and student accounts, and she helped me pick my classes."

Right away, Wayson pointed Cummings toward two classes he credits for putting him on the path to college success: computer applications and English composition.

"The last time I'd touched a computer was my senior year in high school," he said. "When I started at HCC, I didn't even know

how to turn it on."

A co-worker gave him an old laptop. Cummings immersed himself in the challenge of learning a program most new college students take for granted – Microsoft Word. "It took time, and a lot of swearing at my computer," he said. "I never missed a class. I showed up early. I stayed late. I wanted to learn it. I needed to learn it."

In English 101, he discovered a talent for writing. He got an A, the first of his life.

"If I hadn't taken those two classes first I wouldn't have had the skills to put an essay together the right way," he said. "I wouldn't have known how to type it up."

That skillset proved invaluable as Cummings discovered another talent, finding and winning scholarships. He began his impressive run with the HCC Foundation, receiving the Delaney House Scholarship in 2019 and the Pamela K. Reed Scholarship in 2020, both earmarked for students in hospitality management or culinary arts.

Beyond that, he has won scholarships from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Restaurant Association, the National Restaurant Association, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, the NEWH New England Hospitality Industry Network, the American Culinary Federation, the James Beard Foundation, the Massachusetts Restaurant Association Education Foundation, SKAL Boston and HCC's Green Key Honor Society.

Including his latest, a Flagship Award from UMass in the amount of \$12,000, Cummings has collected scholarships worth an impressive \$52,000. He estimates he has applied for close to 200, concentrating mostly on those based in Massachusetts and in his field of study.

"Todd has been the only student, to my knowledge, who has accumulated such a large collection of scholarships as a student at HCC," said Wayson. "I attribute his success to hard work, research and networking. He is truly one of a kind."

Finances had long been a struggle. Before he started winning scholarships, Cummings sought frequent assistance from HCC's Thrive Student Resource Center and Food Pantry for help with groceries and credit counseling.

"Food is just one less thing you have to worry about when you're going to school full time, because this was not easy for me," Cummings said.

Money got even tighter after the pandemic struck and Cummings was laid off from his job at



Courtesy photo

A cook by trade, Todd Cummings '21 enrolled at HCC to learn the business side of running a restaurant and graduates this month.

Fitzwilly's in Northampton, and fell months behind in his rent and utility payments. "These scholarships have changed my life, both pre-pandemic and current," Cummings said. "In all honesty, I would have had to drop out without them. Knowing that I will be graduating from HCC debt free has freed my mind from worrying about paying off student loans."

More than financial stability, the scholarships gave Cummings the freedom to concentrate on his studies.

He's made the most of it. His name has appeared regularly on the Dean's List. He is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the National Society of Leadership and Success. He joined the HCC Creative Writing Club and has had his work published in Pulp City, the college's literary magazine. He was a new student orientation leader, a member of the Student Senate and the Emerging Business Leaders Club, a peer tutor, and co-founder of the HCC men's student support group called D.U.D.E. (Dedication, Unity, Drive for Excellence). During his last semester he wrote a short piece for the HCC Theater Department's spring 2021 production, "In These Times," and also performed in the play as a first-time actor.

Last month, he received HCC's Class of 1953 Award for Outstanding Service from the Office of Student Affairs.

"The scholarships gave me the time to study and truly focus on myself to become better academically and as a person investing in my future," he said. "Yes, financially, scholarships help. To me, though, time is the greatest gift."

Local students receive Monson Savings Bank scholarships

MONSON – Monson Savings Bank continually demonstrates their devotion to supporting the local communities and all of their members. This includes supporting the younger community members, the up and coming generations of students, who will make a difference in the area for many years to come. Monson Savings Bank recently announced that the bank awarded \$28,000 in scholarships to 14 graduating seniors of local high schools.

On, June 23, the bank held its Monson Savings Bank Scholarship ceremony at their corporate office located in Monson. This event provided refreshments, opportunities for bank staff to meet the students and their parents, present the scholarship checks and a gift for each scholarship recipient to take along with them on their educational journey.

Monson Savings Bank awarded \$2,000 scholarships to the following local high school recipients:

Myles Francis McGrail, Ware High School
Lexie Orszulak, Ware High School
Olivia Vadnais, Ware High School
Joseph Angelica, Monson High School
Cameron Boucher, Monson High School
Abigale Bridges, Monson High School
Camille Lobik, Monson High School
Zackery Wysk, Monson High School
Shaun Buteau, Minnechaug Regional High School
Carlie Simpkins, Minnechaug Regional High School

Peter Wurszt, Minnechaug Regional High School
Lillie Hellyer, East Longmeadow High School
Ariana Nevins, East Longmeadow High School
Olivia Watson, East Longmeadow High School

Monson Savings Bank President and CEO Dan Moriarty addressed the students during the ceremony. He said how proud the entire bank was of the graduates for their resilience and dedication, just like their parents. He encouraged them to always be the most authentic version of themselves, to listen to their par-



Courtesy photo

Monson Savings Bank CEO Dan Moriarty (top center) presented \$28,000 in scholarships, along with gifts, to the 2021 Monson Savings Bank Scholarship recipients on June 23. Recipient shown are, front row, left to right, Lillie Hellyer, Cameron Boucher, Lexie Orszulak and Zackery Wysk; second row, left to right, are Carlie Simpkins, Ariana Nevins, Olivia Watson, and Camille Lobik; top row, left to right, Joseph Angelica, Myles McGrail and Shaun Buteau. Not present were Peter Wurszt, Olivia Vadnais, and Abigale Bridges.

ents' advice and to enjoy every single moment. He also shared with the recipients that as their local community bank, Monson Savings will always be available to offer support and financial guidance for years to come.

"All of us at Monson Savings Bank are incredibly proud of these students for the fortitude they have shown over these unique past years," said Moriarty. "We are thrilled to be able to offer these brilliant students with financial support so they can pursue their education. This is the beginning of an amazing ride for these graduates and we hope they will stay in touch, sharing updates on their educational journey. We know they will accomplish remarkable things."

Scholarships available for STEM students at HCC

HOLYOKE — Students enrolled full time in chemistry, biology, engineering, mathematics, physics or other STEM fields at Holyoke Community College may qualify for a National Science Foundation scholarship of up to \$10,000 a year toward tuition and fees.

Through HCC, the National Science Foundation Scholarship offers on average \$6,500 per year to qualified full-time students and prorated amounts for part-time students.

Incoming and current HCC students are encouraged to apply. The STEM scholarship application deadline for the fall 2021 semester is Aug. 1.

Students chosen for the NSF scholarship become members of HCC's STEM Scholars 2.0 Program, also known as SCORE, which stands for STEM Cohorts for Research & Engagement).

STEM Scholars are expected to maintain enrollment in a STEM program, be in good academic standing, complete an associate degree at HCC, and/or transfer to an accredited STEM degree program at a four-year institution. The scholarships are renewable every year students continue to meet the eligibility criteria.

Beside the financial awards, STEM Scholars become part of a learning community that fosters a

sense of belonging and academic success, and includes mentoring, research, and honors experiences; community service; and internships.

Eligibility guidelines for the National Science Foundation Scholarship in STEM can be viewed at hcc.edu/scholarship.

STEM disciplines include biological sciences, physical sciences, math, computer and information services, geosciences and engineering.

The program is lead by HCC math professor Ileana Vasu, coordinator of the STEM Scholars program. She can be reached at ivasu@hcc.edu or 413-552-2438.

Compost dates/times in Palmer

The following schedule will provide dates the compost area off of Old Warren Road in Palmer will be opened to allow town residents to drop off grass clippings and leaves during spring and summer

Date

Saturday, July 17, 2021
Sunday, July 18, 2021
Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021
Sunday, Aug. 22, 2021
Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021
Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021

Time

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

months. Place lawn debris in brown paper bags, (no plastic bags allowed) and do not leave bags up against the locked gate. The town asks that you also practice social distancing.

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of the 4th of July,
there will be an
EARLY AD DEADLINE
To advertise,
place your ad no later than **NOON**
Friday, July 2
– Thank you!

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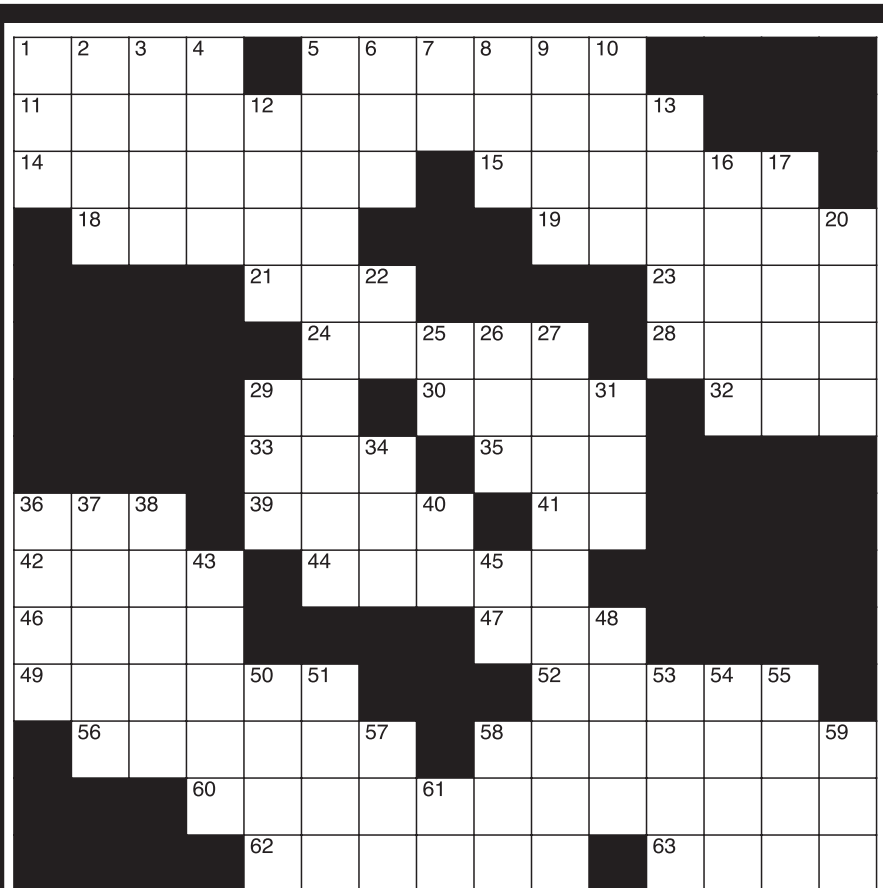
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Back to Natural

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Absence of difficulty
5. Preserve a dead body
11. Gratitude
14. The act of coming together again
15. More cushy
18. Visionaries
19. Fish-eating bird
21. Indicates near
23. NY Mets legend
24. Icelandic poems
28. Pop
29. Hammer is one
30. Senses of self-esteem
32. Trigraph
33. Not around
35. Electronic data processing

36. Driver's licenses and passports
39. Snake-like fishes
41. Military flyers
42. Raincoats
44. Type of community
46. Feature of worm's anatomy
47. In the center
49. Laid back
52. Jewelled headdress
56. In slow tempo
58. ___ Falls
60. Saying things again
62. Periods in history
63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

1. Body part
2. Mimics

3. Expel or eject
4. Sea eagle
5. Subdivision of ctenospecies
6. Dialect of Chinese
7. Mr. T's character on "The A-Team"
8. Consumed
9. Chinese dynasty
10. NFL great Randy
12. Ireland
13. Palm trees
16. Fungal disease
17. Willis and Jerry are two
20. Affirmative!
22. Potato state
25. "The First State"
26. A way to develop
27. Associations
29. Woman (French)
31. Screenshot rating
34. Brew

36. Mosque prayer leader
37. Indigo bush
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Jr.'s father
43. Scad genus
45. Morning
48. Length of a straight line (abbr.)
50. Double curve
51. Small thin bunch
53. Worn by exposure to the weather
54. Mars crater
55. Humanities
57. Of the ears
58. "To the ___ degree"
59. Residue
61. It keeps you cool

CROSSWORD ANSWERS ARE ON PAGE 9

Engagements & Weddings

Share the love with a wedding or engagement announcement!

To place an announcement:
Email elinscott@turley.com

The Journal Register

www.journalregister.turley.com

RACE | from page 1

in the form of events like this,” said Al Sandy, who manages the club experience at the track.

Domnarks said he enjoys a race where anyone can enter with any type of bike they want to use.

“We’ve had everything, including a velomobile,” he said. “It’s a safe place to race because the track is closed and it’s wide. There are no cars, and it’s fun. There’s plenty of room for everyone.”

The cost is \$20 to pre-register and \$40 if a participant waits until the day of the race. Racers should also bring their own race number.

To register, go online to bikereg.com/firecracker-early-morning-circuit-race, then click on “register.”

The bike race is not the track’s only outreach to the community. It also holds a Veterans Appreciation Day on Wednesday, July 7, at 8:30 a.m. U.S. Armed Service veterans are welcome to come to the track for a complimentary day of fun and speed at the track.

“The track’s volunteer workers, instructors and organizers have a sincere appreciation for all who have served and sacrificed for our country,” Sandy said. Track ride-alongs are available, and the veterans let the workers know how fast they want to go around the track. Register in advance online at PalmerMSP.com/vets/.



All types of bicycles and riders are welcome at the Firecracker Early Morning Circuit Race at Palmer Motorsports Park. This is the race’s sixth year, and welcomes many different types of bikes, including velomobile. Courtesy photos



A velomobile and a regular bicycle ride together during a past Firecracker Early Morning Circuit Race. This year’s will be held on July 5.



Bikers get a great view of the area when they take part in the Firecracker Early Morning Circuit Race at Palmer Motorsports Park.

RALLIES | from page 1

Chief Charles Kuss as the only member of the police force whose job status was not in flux. The board eventually did vote on re-appointments. Prior to that, Doyle warned against publicly airing any allegations against Olszta.

“We should not be having a lovefest or a slam fest on any employee in town,” he said.

Traditionally, police officers were appointed or re-appointed year-to-year, but Kuss, who defended Olszta, sought three-year appointments. He asked the board to bring back all nine officers.

“There’s nothing to dissuade me from making the recommendations to include all the officers,” he said.

Kuss also did not return a voice mail left for him after the meeting.

Eight officers were re-appointed. Olszta was denied renewal on a split vote. Doyle and Selectman Paul McCarthy voted to retain Olszta while Collins, Kelly and Leaming voted against it.

The point was made at the meeting and later in the Facebook discussions that failing to re-appoint Olszta could open the town to legal action because Olszta never had a hearing and an opportunity to defend himself against any allegations.

Things got heated to the point at which one resident was escorted out and the board asked Kuss to remove Olszta, who tried to state his case during the meeting. Kuss refused. Around that time, Leaming, in a fit of pique, challenged someone in the audience who apparently said something that got Leaming’s attention, and then he seemed to put the rest of the audience on notice.

“Is that a threat?” Leaming asked.

“Because there’s no one in this audience who scares me,” he said.

By morning a recall petition was circulating. It’s uncertain, but Commonwealth law may prohibit recall elections until three months after the regular election. In the meantime, hundreds of angry posters were venting in the Facebook group. Here’s a sample:

“I’m sorry for you Ryan. What has happened today is a horrible situation. Not sure how these people sleep at night. My family built a home in Brimfield in 1987.....you people pulling this (stuff) should be ashamed.”

“This seems so shady, I don’t live in Brimfield anymore, but you all should seriously see if you can take this to some government body higher up, it sounds like the whole town is being run by two people. Picket, protest on the common, call state reps.”



palmer
motorsports park
a passion for driving

Veterans Appreciation Day
Wednesday July 7th 8:30am-3:30pm



Ride-alongs for Veterans

US Armed Service veterans are welcome to join us at Palmer Motorsports Park for a complimentary day of fun & speed at the race track. Our volunteer workers, instructors, & organizers have a sincere appreciation for all who have served & sacrificed for our country. Track ride-alongs available, tell us how fast you want to go! With our deepest respect & gratitude.

THANK YOU!

Please register in advance online: PalmerMSP.com/vets/

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BASEBALL

Defense has tough time in tourney

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The final varsity baseball game of the 2021 season held at Legion Field was certainly not a very memorable one for the home team.

The 15th-seeded Palmer Panthers made several costly errors, as the 18th-seeded Mohawk Trail Warriors celebrated an 11-2 victory in a Western Mass. Division 3 preliminary round game, last Friday afternoon.

"This is a very disappointing loss for us," said first-year Palmer head coach Anthony Pasquarosa. "They made the plays in today's game, and we

just didn't."

Palmer, who finished the season with a 5-10 overall record, played a home playoff game for the first time since 2017 when they defeated Mahar Regional, 6-3, in a first-round game. They then lost at Waconah Regional in the quarterfinals.

The Panthers lost a first-round game at Hampshire Regional in 2018 and they lost another first-round contest at Mt. Greylock in 2019, which was the final game of Peter Farr's coaching career.

The last postseason meeting between Mohawk and Palmer baseball teams was a first-round home game in 2014. Connor

Roche and Zach Handzel combined to hurl a four-hitter in that contest, as the Panthers advanced into the quarterfinals with a 7-0 shutout victory.

The three Panthers seniors on this year's squad are second baseman Tim Casavecchia, first baseman Nathan Oliveira, and Kevin Hess, who did not play in last Friday's game due to personal reasons.

"I really enjoyed coaching the three seniors and they're very good team leaders," Pasquarosa said. "I wish Kevin could've played in today's game because we really needed him."

Oliveira will be attending UMass-Boston in the fall. He's planning to try-out for the Bea-

cons baseball team as a walk-on.

"Nate has a chance to make the UMass-Boston baseball team as a walk-on," Pasquarosa said. "He just has to work hard and show the coaches that he can compete at that level. I love seeing kids play baseball at the next level."

Mohawk (4-9) took advantage of a fielding error in the top of the first inning to take an early 1-0 lead.

The Panthers threatened to score a run in the bottom half of the frame.

Junior shortstop Chance Lee began the inning by hitting a pop-up single into shallow left

TOURNEY | page 8

SOFTBALL

Panthers season ends in tournament

PALMER – All teams made it into the Western Massachusetts Division 2 tournament, which allowed a 4-8 Palmer softball team an opportunity to see some tourney action for the first time in a few years. The

Panthers traveled to Southwick High and found itself overwhelmed by the Rams offense in a 14-2 loss shortened by the mercy rule. Palmer finished with a record of 4-9 in the pandemic-shortened season.



Jayda Pardo picks up a ground ball at second base.



Chelsea Bigos fires a throw from short to first.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Madison Cole winds up to throw a pitch.



Miyah Mega makes an off balance throw across the diamond.

SOCCER

NE Mutiny continues string of draws at home

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Three of the four United Women's Soccer matches played by the New England Mutiny at historic Lusitano Stadium so far this season have ended in draws.

The only meeting of the regular season between the Mutiny and the Syracuse DA was a scoreless affair, last Saturday night. The Mutiny had a 2-1-4 overall record following the home match.

"It has been a season of ties for us," said Mutiny head coach Jeb Booth. "I do respect a 0-0 tie. We had all sorts of scoring chances during the second half, but we were called for being off-

sides on several rebound shots, which I didn't totally agree with. I'm very proud of the performance by our goalie."

Ela Kopec, who recently graduated from Ludlow High School, made her first start at Lusitano Stadium for the Mutiny. She also posted her first shutout.

"It's really special to post a shutout, especially at this stadium," Kopec said. "I feel like I earned my position on this soccer team."

Kopec, who's a first-year member of the Mutiny, only allowed four goals as the starting goalie for the Ludlow girls' varsity soccer team last fall. The



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Olivia Hicks sends the goal kick away.



Laura Gouvin, of Monson, advances the ball up the field.



Agawam's Hope Santaniello winds up and takes a big shot.



Lydia Kinsman, of Southwick, works away from the Syracuse defense.



Anna Carson tries to work around a pair of opponents.

MUTINY | page 8

BASEBALL

Valley Blue Sox continue to roll, beat Schooners 9-4

The Valley Blue Sox faced the Mystic Schooners at MacKenzie Stadium on Thursday, and won the game by a score of 9-4.

The Blue Sox had a tough start to the game, giving up two runs and failing to secure any of their own in the first inning.

Owen Langan of Northeastern University made his debut in the Valley when he took over for Aaron Hubbell on the mound.

"They did a really good job getting zeros today," Said Head Coach Hez Randolph, whose Blue Sox shut down the Schooners offense throughout the game. "They answered every offensive move the other team made. They applied the pressure, and that never allowed them to get back into the ballgame."

The second and third brought back-to-back three run innings for the Blue Sox, kudos to superior offense in the second and a three-run home run from Mason LaPlante of Yale, his second of the season. "I feel really good right now," Said

LaPlante, "I think it speaks to the conversations I have had with our coaches over the past couple games. I've been working a lot with Her and Pedro (VBS Hitting Coach). The pregame conversation we had today was to be ourselves on the field. Don't try to get too big, just be the players that brought us here in the first place." He continued.

It was a slow but exciting crawl to the ninth, with the Blue Sox hitting well, reaching bases and bringing home a couple of players to extend their lead. The Schooners only put up two runs, ending the game with a score of 9-4.

The Blue Sox previously beat the Schooners in their second game of the season, but since that game, they haven't been able to top them until Thursday's home game.

"I feel like we're really clicking right now," Said LaPlante. "We still aren't playing our absolute best baseball, but the exciting part of that is we have room to improve."

RACING

Leary, McKennedy pick up wins at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. – There's a new sheriff in town at Monadnock Speedway. His name is Tyler Leary, and he's rounding up Modified feature wins.

Winless for his career only eight days earlier, the Hatfield, Mass. pilot set fast time in qualifying Friday at the high-banked speed plant and then roared to his second NHSTRA Modified

feature win in a row. Friday's victory, like the one a week earlier, was scored over some real thoroughbreds.

The ISMA Super Modifieds - 800-plus big block horsepower rocketing a 1,850-pound missile - were in town Saturday, making their first Monadnock run in more than two years, with open-wheel super star Jon McKennedy dominating to win the All State Materials Group 75 lap main event.

Young Gun Fast Eddie Petruskevicius stayed red hot in the beginner class, Mini Stock master Gordon Farnum cruised to his fifth victory of the summer, Justin Littlewood blasted to his second in the Late Model Sportsmen, and Jimmy Zellman won his first of the season in the Pure Stocks Saturday.

Moe Lilje led the first two go-rounds of the ISMA biggie, then giving way to Ben Seitz but staying in the top three the rest

of the way. The first of two cautions waved on lap 29, this one as the leading Seitz tangled with a lapper in turn two.

That moved McKennedy to the point and, at that point, the race's outcome was effectively decided. Anthony Nocella held the deuce the rest of the way, with Lilje strong in third. Nobody, though, had an answer for McKennedy's dominance. He had earlier set fast time with a blistering lap of 11.181 seconds, just shy of his 2018 Monadnock best of 11.138.

And, while Leary didn't turn any 11-second laps, he did set fast time in the NHSTRA Mods to earn the pole, and then outran Trevor Bleau all 40 caution-free laps in the Mod Squad feature. Todd Patnode was strong in third, pulling within six markers of points parade leader Matt Kimball.

MONADNOCK | page 8



Submitted photo

Jon McKennedy picked up a win in the All State Materials Group main event

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Turleysports

Athlete of the Week

Brady Stahelski

Palmer High School

The Palmer sophomore had a huge season for the boys track team this year. He qualified for the state meet in four events and set a personal best in the long jump at 19 feet, 11 inches. To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.



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TOURNEY | from page 7

field. Lee was then thrown out trying to steal second base. With two-outs in the inning, Oliveira lined a single into right field and sophomore catcher Dom Allen doubled to left. Oliveira tried to score on the play, but he was tagged out by Mohawk senior catcher Matt Pollen, who received a perfect relay throw from junior shortstop Tyler Dubreull ending the rally. “That was a bang-bang play at the plate,” Pasquarosa said. “They had to make a perfect play to get that out and you just tip your cap to them. It was only the first inning, and we were trying to be aggressive there.”

The duo of Oliveira and Allen combined to go 4-for-5 against Mohawk. Allen was also intentionally walked leading off the bottom of the sixth inning.

The Panthers only other base hits in the game were singles by sophomore third baseman Ty Miller, and junior right fielder Jack Letendre.

Junior right-hander Mike Mayberry, who was the Panthers starting pitcher, re-

tired the side in order in the second and third innings.

The Warriors scored a pair of unearned runs in the fourth inning to take a 3-0 lead.

The Panthers did give their faithful supporters something to cheer about in the bottom of the fourth.

Oliveira hit a leadoff single to right field and advanced to third base on another double by Allen. Both base runners crossed the plate on wild pitches cutting the deficit to 3-2.

It remained a one run game until the Warriors batted around and scored five runs in the sixth inning.

Junior righty Anthony Ukrainets replaced Mayberry on the mound and was able to record the final out of the inning.

The Warriors added three more runs in their final at-bats and enjoyed the bus ride home to Shelburne Falls.

The returning Panthers players will be looking to end their postseason drought next year.

MUTINY | from page 7

Lady Lions finished the 2020 season without a loss for the first time in twenty years.

“It was a lot of fun playing soccer for the high school team last fall,” she said. “I was only able to play soccer for the varsity team for one season because I had previously played for the NEFC Development Academy, but they folded last year. Playing soccer at the academy level helped me get to where I am today. If I didn’t play for the academy, I don’t even think I would be playing here.”

Kopec is enjoying playing soccer in her hometown for the Mutiny.

“The is a great soccer team with some outstanding coaches,” Kopec said. “All of the girls on this team are going to amazing colleges. It a great thing to be a part of. I played my first soccer game in this stadium for the Western United Pioneers and playing for the Mutiny is something very special to me. It’s almost like I’ve made a full circle.”

Kopec will also attending an amazing college in the fall. She’ll be a freshman goalie on the Villanova University women’s soccer team.

Villanova assistant coach Megan Geldernick watched Kopec play in a soccer match with her club team in a tournament in Pennsylvania in February of 2020.

“Coach Geldernick saw me play in a game and I played very well that day. Then I made a visit to the Villanova campus three days later,” Kopec said. “That’s when I decided to commit to the school. When I toured the campus, it felt like home to me. Everyone was very nice there.”

Kopec started her first match for the Mutiny in a road match against the Worcester Smiles two weeks ago. She played the first 45 minutes of that contest before being replaced by Caitlin Murphy at the start of the second half. The Mutiny coasted to a 7-0 victory.

The Mutiny’s only other victory so

far this season came at home versus the Connecticut Rush by the final score of 6-1 on May 22. Their other two home ties were against the Boston Scorpions (2-2), and the New Jersey Copa (2-2).

After making three saves during the first half against the Syracuse DA, Kopec made the save of the night with less than five minutes remaining in regulation. She deflected a shot taken from the top of the box by midfielder Darby D’Angelo over the crossbar.

“Ela made a huge save and it was a gamechanger,” Booth said. “If she lets that shot go into the net, everything would be different. She does a really good job of managing shots from the outside.”

Kopec received plenty of support from her defense in last Saturday’s home match. Those players are Lydia Kinsman, Delaney Lawler, Olivia Hicks, Anna Carson, and Gabby DeAngelis.

The Mutiny did put plenty of pressure on the Syracuse defense, but they couldn’t put the ball into the back of the net.

“It was a frustrating game tonight,” said midfielder Laura Gouvin, who’s also enjoying her first full season playing for the Mutiny. “We had several good shots on goal, but we were just unlucky. We did play very well defensively.”

Gouvin, who lives in Monson, will be a sophomore member of the Boston College women’s soccer team this fall.

Entering the homestretch of the regular season, the Mutiny are battling several other teams for one of the four East Conference playoff spots.

“I’m still expecting us to finish in the top four and make the playoffs,” Booth said. “Anything can happen during the final weeks of the regular season.”

The Mutiny will be playing two road matches against FC Buffalo and the Connecticut Rush before returning home to battle the Long Island Roughriders in the season finale on July 10.

Thunderbirds get ready to return to the ice

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds are proud to announce the six guaranteed dates they have received from the American Hockey League for the 2021-22 AHL season. The season kicks off with the home opener on Saturday, Oct. 16. Along with the news of Opening Night is the announcement from Governor Baker’s office that Massachusetts businesses will be allowed to open

100% starting on May 29. That means be on the lookout for a sold-out crowd on Opening Night. The guaranteed dates are listed below:
Saturday, October 16, 2021
Friday, November 5, 2021
Saturday, December 11, 2021
Saturday, January 15, 2022
Saturday, February 12, 2022
Saturday, March 5, 2022

The remainder of the schedule and announcement of the Thunderbirds promotional schedule will be released in the coming months. To guarantee your seat to Opening Night, check out Thunderbirds ticket packages. From attending a few games, to catching all of them, there is a package that makes sense for you and guarantees you the best savings and benefits possible.

Starfires collegiate team pick up pair of wins

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Starfires got primed for the team’s upcoming sellout (Wednesday, June 30) with a resounding 16-3 over the Norwich Sea Unicorns on Sunday afternoon.

It was the most runs scored for the Starfires franchise since its inception in 2019.

All nine batters reached base at least

twice. Peter DeMaria went 3-for-4 with 3 runs scored, 2 doubles, and 2 RBI.

The thrashing of Norwich comes ahead of the team’s first-ever advance sellout as the largest crowd ever at Bullens Field is scheduled to arrive on June 30 to see the Starfires take on the Pittsfield Suns.

The Starfires traveled to Dodd Stadium

in Connecticut on Thursday night and came away with a 6-4 victory over the Norwich Sea Unicorns. Westfield native Aidan Dunn earned the win with six strong innings on the mound, giving up only two hits and striking out four. He was named Pitcher of the Night by the FCBL. Andrew Roman was credited with the save after closing out the game.

Registration ongoing for Bay State Summer Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 39th annual Bay State Summer Games is currently underway. The 2021 Summer Games will feature more than 30 sports for athletes of all ages. Tryouts are underway for all showcase sports. Athletes must sign up prior to attending a tryout.

The 2021 Summer Games will look a little different than in the past. Every tournament will have specific protocols which must be followed by every participant, coach, volunteer, and spectator. More information can be found on the Bay State Games website.

After the cancellation of the 2020 Summer Games due to COVID-19, Bay State Games has also adjusted the eligibility requirements to allow graduating seniors to compete in the showcase sports. In order to be eligible, the senior must have either already competed in Bay State Games in the past or have been registered for the 2020 Summer Games prior to its cancellation.

Dates and venues have also been confirmed for rugby, swimming and track & field. Registration is open for these sports.

Registration is currently open in the

following sports:

Archery: July 24 at Devens, Ayer
Badminton: August 27-29 at Boston
Badminton, Westborough
Baseball*: July 6-8 at BC High School, Boston
Girls Basketball*: July 16-18 at The Rivers School, Weston
Fencing: August 21-22 at Boston Fencing Club, Brighton
Field Hockey*: July 9-11 at Veterans Memorial Field Complex, Waltham
6v6 Field Hockey: July 24 at Worcester State University
FootGolf: July 24 at Quail Ridge Golf Course, Acton
Boys and Girls Ice Hockey*: July 8-11 at New England Sports Center, Marlborough
Boys Lacrosse*: July 12-14 at Veterans Memorial Field Complex, Waltham
7v7 Girls Lacrosse: July 13-14 at Veterans Memorial Field Complex, Waltham
7v7 Women’s Lacrosse: July 10 at Veterans Memorial Field Complex, Waltham
Pickleball: July 24-25 at The Mill Works, Westford
Rugby: July 31 at Union Point Sports

Complex, Weymouth

Boys and Girls Soccer*: July 8-11 at Veterans Memorial Field Complex, Waltham
Softball*: July 13-15 at Devens, Ayer
Shooting Sports:
Sport Pistol: June 27 at Mass. Rifle Association, Woburn
Air Pistol: June 27 at Mass. Rifle Association, Woburn
Progressive Position Pistol: July 11 at Mass. Rifle Association, Woburn
Swimming: July 31-August 1 at Regis College, Weston
Track & Field: July 10 at Regis College, Weston
Boys and Girls Volleyball*: July 10-11 at The Rivers School, Weston
Weightlifting: July 17 – 18 at CrossFit Five Plus, Beverly
*Tryout information for the eight showcase sports is being posted on the sport’s page as they become available.

For more information on all sports in the 2021 Summer Games, and links to on-line registration, go to www.baystategames.org. For questions email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

MONADNOCK | from page 7

Justin Littlewood started alongside his brother Cole in the LMS feature, took the lead from him on lap four and then held Austin Brehio in his back pocket the rest of the way to score his second win of the summer.

And while there was a war being waged behind him, Brehio’s strong runner-up effort – his fifth podium outing in a row – allowed him to finish the night atop the points parade, two scant markers better than Cam Curtis, third in the night’s 25-lapper.

Gordon Farnum stormed to his fifth Mini Stock win of the season. Charging from row four, the Fitzwilliam Flyer took the lead from Kevin Clayton on lap 16 and drove off to take the checkers eight lengths ahead of Louie Maher.

Maher, the winner a week earlier, was strong in second on Saturday, joining Farnum and third-place finisher Ray King in trophy row. A pair of Kevins, Cormier and Clayton, rounded out the top five.

Jimmy Zellman took the lead from Cory Lofland on lap 11 of the Pure Stock feature

and then sped off to score his first win of the summer in Saturday’s nightcap 25-lapper. JD Stockwell was second, with Lofland third.

Top points man Chris Davis came home fifth, ending the night a dozen markers ahead of Stockwell.

Fast Eddie Petruskevicius again worked his magic in the Young Guns 15-lapper, winning for the sixth week in a row. This time, though, Teagan Edson – greatly improving every week – kept him within shooting distance as she took the checkers second. Leilei Daniels came home third.

Saturday, July 3, Monadnock Speedway will host its huge annual Firecracker Night event, featuring a 100-lap NHSTRA Modified main event, a spectacular aerial fireworks display, the Pro Truck Series, and a full card of NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series competition. Post time is 5 p.m.

Monadnock Speedway June 26 Top Tens:
NHSTRA MODIFIED 40-LAP: Tyler Leary, Trevor Bleau, Todd Patnode, Matt

TRAPPER | from page 2

erty. The process took close to a year due to COVID-19 restrictions causing the spay/neuter clinic to be shutdown. All of those cats received veterinary care in addition to being spayed/neutered.

While not all property owners reach out for help with their feral cat colonies, Hutchinson said it makes a world of difference for the cats and volunteers if they do. At her current feral cat colony, located on a farm in Ware, Hutchinson has worked with the property owner to trap almost 30 cats and kittens since last year. Those that are young enough are socialized and rehomed, while all others are returned to the property. Hutchinson said they have 15 cats are the farm that have been spayed/neutered and another seven cats to trap. “This is the advantage of having the property owners to work with you,” she said. “The property owner is catching a lot of cats since I showed them how to trap. When I can teach somebody to trap, that’s golden.”

As the feral cats become wary of the traditional traps, volunteers have to switch to using drop traps, a three-foot by three-foot by one-foot metal cage without a bottom, which is propped up and tied with the string. This type of trap requires a lot of patience, as the trapper has to sit nearby and activate the trap once the cat is under it. Hutchinson and other volunteers use strong-smelling food, like tuna or anchovies, to lure the cats to the

traps. Property owners help trappers set up traps near feeding sites. “Sometimes you catch the same cats over and over,” Hutchinson said, as the cats quickly learn that traps mean food, and that they will be released. “The last 10 cats have been tricky,” she said of the farm colony.

Catching feral kittens

It is not just these last remaining feral cats that have proved to be a challenge to Hutchinson, it also involved a mixed litter of eight kittens and an apparent “cat-knapping.” The kittens were the product of two mother cats that were co-parenting their litters. The mother cats moved the kittens to a loft where Hutchinson and the property owner were unable to reach them. Hutchinson knew she had to wait for the kittens to be old enough and for the mothers to bring them down.

When this happened, Hutchinson was able to trap one of the mother cats for TNR. While the mother cat was recovering, a spayed female that was previously trapped and released began taking the kittens and hiding them in a stonewall on the farm. They were able to retrieve all but one kitten from the stonewall before a torrential storm rolled in. Unable to reach the kitten without risk of injuring him, the property owner and Hutchinson were forced to wait for the storm, which brought high winds and a deluge of rain, to pass. Hutchinson said she

could not sleep that night, worrying about what might happen to the kitten.

The next day, the spayed female was let out of a shed and immediately went to the stonewall and began calling for the kitten. He made his way out of the wall and was caught by the property owner. “He survived the storm in a rock wall by himself,” Hutchinson said. The kitten had watery eyes and was beginning to develop an upper respiratory infection due to the cold and damp conditions in the wall. He was treated and is in the process of being adopted out, just like the other seven kittens in the combined litter.

“I don’t want kittens to be born in the wild as feral cats because they are so vulnerable and so many die, or get sick,” Hutchinson said, of volunteering with HTAT. “This is why I do this...I want to do right by these cats.”. People in need of assistance with feral cat populations can reach out to HTAT Director Rachael Max at 413-324-8224 or smudge@heretodaysanctuary.org or visit www.heretodaysanctuary.org.

Residents of Brimfield, Holland, Palmer, Monson, Southbridge, Sturbridge, Wales, Ware or Warren can qualify for low-cost spay or neuter services for cats. Feral and stray cats get fixed for free. Services are supported by the BISSELL Pet Foundation Spay/Neuter Grant, the Shirley Shattuck Windsor Trust and the Massachusetts Animal Coalition’s License Mass Program.



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Journal Register

O B I T U A R I E S

Russell C. Bednarski, 73



PALMER – Russell C. Bednarski, 73, passed away on June 17, 2021, at home surrounded by his loving daughter, Tracy.

He was born on Oct. 17, 1947, in Springfield to the late Charles and Arlene (Quinn) Bednarski. Russell proudly served his country with the U.S. Army as a Technical Specialist during the Vietnam War. He retired as a mail sorter from the Springfield Bulk Mail Center after working for 28 years.

Even as a single father raising his beloved daughter Tracy, he still found time to loudly yell advice to the Bruins as they played on the TV, watching

UFC fights on Saturday nights with John Stamant and going fly fishing. Russell also had a passion for playing pool and was in a league for Turtle Pond Bar, receiving many trophies. Even with all of these passions, his true passion was not only being Tracy's father, but her biggest hero. He would ALWAYS tell her she was TOUGHER than ANY boy he could have ever had.

Russell is survived by his loving daughter, Tracy Christiansen and her fiancé John St.



Amant of Palmer; his granddaughter, Ashley Christiansen; his great-grandson Josiah Torres and great-granddaughters, Layla and Arianna Christiansen.

Beers and Story Palmer Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements

in which all services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the Bay-state Hospice, 30 Capital Dr., W. Springfield, MA 01089. For further information, please visit beersandstory.com.

Shirley T. Sherman, 89

Townshend, VT/Monson, MA — Shirley Terese (Cantwell) Sherman went to be with the Lord on June 23, 2021.

Shirley was born Sept. 15, 1931, to her loving parents Bernard Cantwell and Eva (Gaudette) Cantwell. She grew up in Thorndike, a village she truly loved. She always spoke fondly of the wonderful neighbors and the 88 steps. She attended schools in Palmer and graduated from Palmer High in the Class of 1949. Shirley's first job was a switchboard operator at Church Company in Monson. She met Milton Sherman and they married on April 11, 1953. Shirley worked as a waitress for many years while her children were in school. She was her kids No. 1 fan and faithfully attended all of their games through high school.

She became an avid Red Sox fan in her retirement years, keeping score of every game she watched – a collection of notebooks are now Red Sox history.

Shirley retired from the Monson Developmental Center in July of 2000, where she worked as a supervisor of dietary services. "She ran a tight ship" in her satellite kitchens. Shirley was a member of the Retreads Motorcycle Club of Fiskdale and rode her motorcycle up until her 75th birthday. Shirley loved playing cards and cribbage was her special game. She also enjoyed pitch and thirty-one.

Shirley leaves her brother Donald P. Cantwell of Holland and his partner Kathy Meany of Thorndike. She was predeceased by her brother Bernard Cantwell of Florida. Shirley leaves her five children, Milton Sherman Jr. (Chip) and his wife Annie of Dummerston Vt.; Deborah Sherman and her partner Buddy; Susan LeCours



and husband Robert; and Ralph Sherman, all of Townshend Vt; and Tracy Mazza and husband Angelo of West Springfield. She also leaves 11 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. She was recently predeceased by her great-grandson Dylan Landers.

Funeral Liturgy was celebrated at St. Patrick's Church in Monson on June 29 with burial following at Bethany Cemetery in Monson.

In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial contribution to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation - JD RF 200 Vesey St. 28th Floor, New York NY 10281. jdrf.org. Visit lombardfuneralhome.com for online condolences.



DEATH NOTICES

Russell C. Bednarski, 73
Died: June 17, 2021
Services are Private

Shirley Terese Sherman (Cantwell), 89
Died: June 23, 2021

Lawrence Snowden Sr., 72
Died: June 25, 2021
Services to be held at convenience of the family

Joseph Charles Zajk, 82
Died: June 5, 2021

Lawrence Snowden Sr., 72

PALMER — Lawrence Snowden Sr., 72, passed away on Friday, June 25, 2021, surrounded by his loving family at Bay-state Medical Center in Springfield.

Son of the late Lloyd and Josephine (Sowa) Snowden, he was born in Worcester on April 4, 1949. Lawrence was an avid outdoorsman and had a passion for fishing. He enjoyed many local fishing spots and could be found enjoying bass fishing five days a week, and sometimes even seven!

Above all, family was most important to him and he will

be dearly missed by all who knew him, including his loving wife, Anita (Kargol) Snowden; his son Lawrence Snowden, Jr. and his wife, Christine of Palmer; his daughter Lori Claxton and her husband, George of Easthampton; his grandson, Matthew Berthiaume of Ware; his great granddaughter, Violet Berthiaume; his sister Bonnie Czepl and her husband Peter of Belchertown; as well as many extended family members



and friends.

Memorial donations may be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children, donate.lovetothe rescue.org, Dakin Humane Society, dakinhumane.org, or Sunshine Village, sunshine.us/donor.

Services for Lawrence will be at the convenience of the family. Beers & Story Palmer Funeral entrusted with Lawrence's arrangements.

To leave a memory or condolence, visit beersandstory.com.

Joseph Charles Zajk, 82

Joseph "Joe" Charles Zajk, born on June 22, 1939, in Palmer, peacefully passed to meet his heavenly father on June 5, 2021, in Prescott, Ariz.

Joe graduated from Palmer High School and served for four years in the U.S. Army at Fort Bliss, Texas. He spent time on Johnson Island in the Pacific testing Nike missiles, and in Arizona and Nevada testing nuclear weapons. Joe also spent five years serving in the local National Guard battalion in Ware.

Following his time in the military, Joe returned home and settled in Ware with his new wife Celia. He became active within the White Eagles Society, VFW and Knights of Columbus.

Joe began his career as an aerospace machinist at Pratt & Whitney. Over the years, Joe worked at various aerospace manufacturers including Barnes Aircraft, Moore Drop Forging Co. and Rathbones, Inc.

As the years passed, Joe's health issues prompted him to seek less stressful and demanding employment. This led him to take a position as a school janitor in the Wilbraham School District. Joe also worked part-



time with John Lukaskiewicz in Palmer. Joe enjoyed these jobs and ultimately retired as a janitorial supervisor.

Joe and his family loved their beach vacations, traveling to such places as Anguilla, the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos; but Joe's "happy place" was always Old Orchard Beach, Maine. It was in Old Orchard Beach that Joe and his wife purchased a summer home. Maine was a place where they could relax, enjoy their retirement and welcome family and friends. A few years later, Joe and Celia became true snowbirds when they moved to Prescott, Ariz., to enjoy watching their grandchildren grow up.

Despite his ongoing health issues, which included multiple heart surgeries and partial amputation of his right leg, Joe never complained. He worked tirelessly all his life to make sure his family was taken care of and did not want for anything. He did what needed to be done, and he certainly did it his way.

June 19 was Joe and Celia's 56th wedding anniversary, and Joe would have turned 82 on June 22. His family finds peace and solace knowing that he is no longer in pain and is

amongst the angels.

Joe was predeceased by his father Joseph Peter Zajk and Lottie Zajk of Palmer and his sister-in-law Melanie Mikus of Ware.

Joe is survived by his wife Celia of Prescott, Ariz., and his three children: Melissa and her husband Paul of London, England; Joelle of Arlington, Va.; and Joseph, his wife Dawn and his two grandsons, Matthew and Jonah of Prescott. He is also survived by his sister Marcia Iwanicki and her husband Richard of West Chester, Pa.; his nephews John Iwanicki and wife Ann-Marie of Tampa, Fla., and David Iwanicki, wife Taryn and son Conner of Malvern, Pa.

Other survivors include his sister-in-law Jeanne Chrabaszcz and partner Jan Magee of Queensbury, N.Y.; his brother-in-law Gary Mikus of Ware; and his beloved nieces Jennifer, her husband Josh and daughters June and Josie, and Allison, her husband Ryan and their children William and Olivia of Milton, Vt.

Joe will be missed by his many friends, especially those in Old Orchard Beach.

A funeral service for Joe will be announced at a later date. Donations in Joe's name can be made to the St. Jude Society, Shriners Hospital of Springfield, Autism Speaks, or a charity of your choice.

The Journal Register
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and

funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their

own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

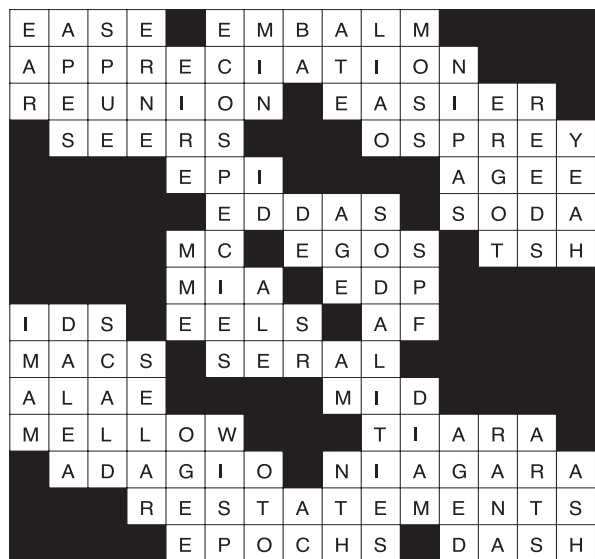
INFRASTRUCTURE | from page 4

Mitigating climate change would help minimize this disruption.

President Biden's plan does address these modern-day challenges. These investments will generate enormous returns. The infrastructure package would create 2.7 million jobs over the next decade, according to an analysis by Moody's Analytics.

Biden's proposal aim to help our nation move forward by laying the foundation for sustainable economic growth – and ensuring America remains an economic superpower for decades to come.

Jason Andringa is chair of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers' "Infrastructure Vision 2050" task force. He is president and CEO at Vermeer Corporation.



EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of the 4th of July,
PUBLIC NOTICES
EARLY AD DEADLINE
Place your public notice
no later than NOON
Friday, July 2
– Thank you!

Even "singles" need estate plans

If you don't have a spouse or children, you might think you don't need to do much estate planning. But if you have any assets, anyfamilial connections, any interest in supporting charitable groups – not to mention a desire to control your own future – you do need to establish an estate plan.

In evaluating your needs for this type of planning, let's start with what might happen if you die intestate – that is, without a last will and testament. In this scenario, your assets will likely have to go through the probate process, which means they'll be distributed by the court according to your state's intestate succession laws, essentially without regard to your wishes. Even if you don't have children yourself, you may have nephews or nieces, or even children of cousins or friends, to whom you would like to leave some of your assets, which can include not just money but also cars, collectibles, family memorabilia and so on. But if everything you own goes through probate, there's no guarantee that these individuals will end up with what you wanted them to have.

If you want to leave something to family members or close friends, you will need to indicate this in your last will and testament or other estate planning documents. But you also may want to provide support to one or more charitable organizations. Of course, you can simply name these charities in your will, but there may be options that could provide you with more benefits.

One such possibility is a charitable remainder trust. Under this arrangement, you'd transfer appreciated assets – such as stocks, mutual funds or other securities – into an irrevocable trust. The trustee, whom you've named – in fact, you could serve as trustee yourself – can then sell the assets at full market value, avoiding the capital gains taxes you'd have to pay if you sold them yourself, outside a trust. Plus, if you itemize, you may be able to claim a charitable deduction on your taxes. With the proceeds, the trust can purchase income-producing assets and provide you with an income stream for the rest of your life. Upon your death, the remaining trust assets will go the charities you've named.

Aside from family members and charitable groups, there's a third entity that's central to your estate plans: yourself. Everyone should make arrangements to protect their interests, but, in the absence of an immediate family, you need to be especially vigilant about your financial and health care decisions. And that's why, as part of your estate planning, you may want to include these two documents: durable power of attorney and a health care proxy.

A durable power of attorney lets you name someone to manage your finances should you become incapacitated. This arrangement is especially important for anyone who doesn't have a spouse to step in. And if you become incapacitated, your health care proxy – also known as a health care surrogate or medical power of attorney – lets you name another person to legally make health care decisions for you if you can't do so yourself.

Estate planning moves can be complex, so you'll need help from a legal professional and possibly your tax and financial advisors. You may not have an immediate family, but you still need to take steps to protect your legacy.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Steven A. Crespo, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Ludlow at 413-547-6048 or steven.crespo@edwardjones.com.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Police/Fire

Police Logs

PALMER POLICE

The Palmer Police Department responded to 361 calls and made three arrests or summons for arrests June 22 – 29. Those arrested will appear at the Palmer District Court and are innocent unless proven guilty:

Thursday, June 24

David F. Stepanian, 39, of 66 Hanward Hill, East Longmeadow, was arrested 10:15 p.m., on charges of operating under the influence of liquor; negligent operation of a motor vehicle and having no inspection sticker.

Saturday, June 26

Kristin L. Mancini, 51, of 46 Glenn St., Three Rivers, was arrested at 9:23 p.m., on Palmer Road in Three Rivers, on charges of operating a motor vehicle (second offense); negligent operation of a motor vehicle and a marked lanes violation.

MONSON POLICE

The Monson Police Department responded eight arrests or summons for arrests June 20–26. Those arrested will appear at the Palmer District Court and are innocent unless proven guilty:

Fire Logs

PALMER

The Palmer Fire Department responded to 12 calls June 23–28:

On Wednesday, June 23, at 9:23 a.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Old Warren Road. The department returned to service at 9:59 a.m.

On Wednesday, June 23, at 11:44 a.m., the department responded to a medical assistance on North Main Street. The department returned to service at 11:49 a.m.

On Wednesday, June 23, at 2:57 p.m., the department responded to a public service call on Meadowbrook Lane. The department returned to service at 3:25 p.m.

Oh Thursday, June 24, at 1:23 p.m., the department responded to a detector activation on Wright Street. The department returned to service at 1:51 p.m.

On Thursday, June 24, at 3:30 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Park Street. The department returned to service at 4:28 p.m.

On Thursday, June 24, at 5:07 p.m., the department responded to an alarm activation on Main Street in Monson. The department returned to service at 6:08 p.m.

On Friday, June 25, at 10:02 a.m., the department responded to a chemical spill on Wright Street. The department returned to service at 1:28 p.m.

On Saturday, June 26, at 1:53 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle fire on the Mass Pike. The department returned to service at 3:10 p.m.

On Saturday, June 26, at 7:51 p.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Knox Street. The department returned to service at 8:50 p.m.

On Sunday, June 27, at 6:10 p.m., the department responded detector activation on Park Street. The department returned to service at 6:41 p.m.

On Monday, June 28, at 2:00 p.m., the department

Sunday, June 20

Christine Louise Kennedy, 42, of 268 Palmer Rd. Apt. 28, Monson, was arrested at 8:16 p.m., for a WMS Warrant.

Randy Alexander, 19, of 10 Chestnut St. Apt. 1505, Springfield, was arrested at 11:36 p.m., on charges of carrying a dangerous weapon and a probation warrant.

Monday, June 21

Jules Oscar III Gaudreau, 32, of 2205 Boston Rd., Apt. L110, Wilbraham, was arrested at 1:30 p.m., for a WMS Warrant.

Thursday, June 24

Theodore S. Beaulieu, 69, of 134 Fenton Rd., Monson, was arrested at 11:53 p.m., charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor (third offense); negligent operation of a motor vehicle and rate of speed exceeding the posted limit.

Saturday, June 26

Anthony Moran, 31, of 9 Granby Hts., Granby, was arrested at 12:56 a.m., on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor; negligent operation of a motor vehicle and disturbing the peace.

Matthew F. Crum, 39, of 2 Butler Rd. Apt. 3, Monson, was arrested at 9:17 p.m. on charges of assault and battery with serious injuries; disorderly conduct; resisting arrest and interfering with a police officer.

responded to an alarm activation on South Main Street. The department returned to service at 2:19 p.m.

On Wednesday, June 28, at 8:34 p.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Searle Street. The department returned to service at 9:08 p.m.

BONDSDVILLE

The Bondsville Fire Department responded to four calls June 22–28:

On Friday, June 25, at 7:46 a.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Hillside Drive. The department returned to service at 8:14 p.m.

On Friday, June 25, at 9:14 a.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Jim Ash Road. The department returned to service at 9:41 a.m.

On Saturday, June 26, at 10:56 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Jim Ash Road. The department returned to service at 12:25 a.m.

On Monday, June 28, at 5:25 p.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Main Street. The department returned to service at 5:39 p.m.

MONSON

The Monson Fire Department responded to three fire calls and 25 EMS calls June 21–June 27:

On Monday, June 21, at 2:29 p.m., the department responded to a smoking air conditioner on Raimers Road. The department returned to service at 3:10 p.m.

On Thursday, June 25, at 5:39 p.m., the department responded to a fire alarm activation on Main Street. The department returned to service at 5:51 p.m.

On Saturday, June 26, at 11:04 p.m., the department responded to a carbon monoxide alarm activation on Fenton Road. The department returned to service at 11:46 p.m.

CHIEF | from page 1

Roy has served the Palmer Fire Dept. as a captain and, for the past 30 years, has worn the chief’s hat.

Now, after a combined 45 years with the department, Roy is stepping into retirement. As of July 1, William Bernat takes over as provisional chief.

“He’ll do well leading the department,” Roy said of his successor and former dupty.

They knew the day would come – eventually. “We have succession training,” Roy said. “You plan for it. He’s very well educated and I mentored him as he came up through the ranks. He is very capable of leading the department.”

Bernat, 48, has lived in Palmer most of his life and has worked with Roy for 28 years.

“It has been a pleasure to work with Chief Roy,” he said.

“He will be deeply missed and on the behalf of the Palmer Fire Department we would all like to wish him a happy and healthy retirement. The thing I will miss the most about working with Chief Roy is him being my mentor and all of the knowledge he has shared with me over the years.”

Destined for the job

Roy said growing up he always had an attraction for engines and machines. His uncles were mechanics and his grandfather owned a Pontiac dealership.

“I always found that exciting,” he said. “I always liked a lot of moving parts and I guess you can say I have some technical genes.”

For a young gear head with a taste for adventure and a heart for public service, the lure of firefighting equipment was strong. The potential danger wasn’t a thought.

“When you’re young you think you’re invincible,” Roy said.

“I didn’t think of it at the time as a dangerous job. Just exciting. It’s like a calling and just something I loved.”

One thing Roy learned over time was that he indeed was not invincible. There have been some close calls, like suffering smoke inhalation while inside a burning house.

“Back then the air packs were hit or miss,” Roy said.

Another time, a clamp flew off a fire hydrant, catching Roy under his helmet and seriously injuring his eye. That one was particularly scary.

“I wasn’t sure if I lost the eye or not,” he said.

“They transported me right to Springfield (to a trauma ward). I got a few weeks off for that one,” Roy laughed.

“It took a while for my vision to clear, but it cleared up and I went back.”

A growing department

When Roy first came on, the department had about 40 mostly on-call firefighters. Like in other communities, as training and certification requirements became more intense, fewer people wanted to serve and in 1983, Roy was hired by then-Chief Gus Theodore as the department’s first full-time firefighter. A second followed in the early 90s, and a third wasn’t added until 2003.

“Now we have transformed into a 20-member, on-call department with five full-timers,” Roy said.

He credits the Palmer community and the fire district the PFD serves for keeping the department well-equipped and staffed.

“We’ve always had a lot of support,” he said.

The district’s board of commissioners “have always been budget-conscious and aware taxes can be a hardship on residents and they’ve always worked for the taxpayers of the district. It’s been a pleasure working with the committee,” Roy said.

The appreciation goes both ways.

“Chief Roy has been a real leader in public safety in a town with multiple fire departments,” Town Manager Ryan McNutt said.

“His professional demeanor and knowledge will be missed.”

The next chapter

Roy also has gratitude for the support of his wife, Cheryl Roy.

“With me retiring, she also retires from the fire department,” Alan said.

“I’ve been there since day one with,” Cheryl said. “Since high school!”

The two plan to indulge their love of travel and spend more time on their boat down the Cape. And if ever a couple seemed fated, it’s Alan and Cheryl Roy.

“Cheryl’s father was captain of the department and her grandfather was a firefighter, so I guess I married the right girl,” Alan said.

“Ask me that a year after retirement,” Cheryl quipped while they shared a laugh.

Ahead of a July 1 open house at the department for Roy’s send-off, he summed up a long career in just a few words.

“This has been a great department to work for and the men and women of the department are the best and I will miss them,” he said.

Public notices

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 21 Dale Road, Holbrook, Massachusetts
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Dorothy Bitsoli-Ricci to Bank of America, N.A., said mortgage dated February 15, 2007, and recorded in the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, in Book 24554 at Page 432 and now held by Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as Trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust Present Holder of the Mortgage (860) 677-2868
07/01, 07/08, 07/15/2021

or cashier’s check within sixty (60) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

BENDETT & MCHUGH, PC
270 Farmington Avenue
Farmington, CT 06032
Attorney for Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as Trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust Present Holder of the Mortgage (860) 677-2868
07/01, 07/08, 07/15/2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD21P1201EA Estate of: Michael Robert Guyer Also known as: Michael R Guyer Date of Death: 12/15/2020 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Autumn L Guyer** of Monson, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Autumn L Guyer** of Monson, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/23/2021**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: June 24, 2021
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/01/2021

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Matthew Johnson, Alicia Johnson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. to Quicken Loans, LLC, recorded on June 22, 2020, in Book No. 23271, at Page 443

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold

at Public Auction at **9:00 AM on July 28, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises located at 1352 Park Street, Palmer, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

The land in Palmer, in the County of Hampden, Commonwealth of Massachusetts bounded and described as follows: A certain tract of land in the easterly side of said Palmer located on the northerly side of Boston Post Road, otherwise known as Park Street, and being part of lot six (6) and part of lot five (5) on Plan of East Palmer Park, Palmer, Mass., owned and developed by John Smalarz May, 1927, W.H. & H.W. Brainerd, Engineers, said plan being recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book of Plans Y, Page 76, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point in the northerly side of the Boston Post Road, said point being three hundred seventy-five (375) feet easterly measured along said Boston Post Rod from the southeast corner of land now or formerly of Charles Johnson and said point being at the southeast corner of land now or formerly of John J. Mullen, et ux; and running thence NORTHERLY and at right angles with said Boston Post Road, one hundred seventy-five (175) feet to an iron pin; and running thence WESTERLY at right angles with the line last described and parallel with said Boston Post Road, seventy-five (75) feet to land now or formerly of John S. and Sophia Bogacz, the last two courses being along land of said Mullen, et ux; and running thence NORTHERLY in a line at right angles with the line last described and along line of said Bogacz, three hundred twenty-five (325) feet to an iron pipe at land now or formerly of John Smalarz, et ux; thence EASTERLY in a line parallel with a distant five hundred (500) feet from the Boston Post Road, one hundred fifty (150) feet to an iron pipe at other land of said Smalarz, et ux; thence SOUTHERLY in a line parallel with and distant one hundred fifty (150) feet from the easterly line of said land of Bogacz, et ux five hundred (500) feet to an iron pipe at the Boston Post Road; thence WESTERLY along the northerly side of the Boston Post Road seventy-five (75) feet to the place of beginning. Excepting that which was conveyed by deed dated May 22, 2009 and recorded in Book 3464, Page 287. Being the same premises conveyed to grant-or by deed recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds herewith in Book 21267, Page 313.

For mortgagor’s(s’) title see deed recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 21267, Page 313. These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:
A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

QUICKEN LOANS, LLC

Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
19936

06/24, 07/01, 07/08/2021

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUVENILE MATTERS ORDER OF NOTICE JD-JM-61 Rev. 10-11 C.G.S. 45a-716(c), 46b-129(a), 52-52, PA 11-51, Sec. 19 Pr. Bk. Secs. 11-6, 11-7, 33a-5 Notice To: Michael Rafferty, father of child born to Shana H. on 11/28/04

of parts unknown. A petition has been filed seeking:

Commitment of minor child(ren) of the above named or vesting of custody and care of said child(ren) of the above named in a lawful, private or public agency or a suitable and worthy person. The petition, whereby the court’s decision can affect your parental rights, if any, regarding minor child(ren) will be heard on: **8/5/21 at 2:00pm at SCJM, 25 School Street, Rockville, CT 06066**

Hearing on an Order of Temporary Custody will be heard on **7/2/21 at 9:30am at SCJM, 25 School Street, Rockville, CT 06066**

Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt, in the Palmer Journal, a newspaper having a circulation in the town/city of **Palmer, MA**

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure that an attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public Defender. Request for an attorney should be made immediately in person, by mail, or by fax at the court office where your hearing is to be held.

Hon. Dawne Westbrook
Date: 6/25/21
Betty Skipper
Clerk

07/01/2021

Public Hearing Notice
In accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, section 40, public hearings will be held by Wales Conservation Commission on **Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm** Meeting will be held, publicly at the Wales Senior Center, 85 Main Street to consider the following:

1) 40 Hollow Road, Order of Conditions
2) 33 Barney Road, Order of Conditions
07/01/2021

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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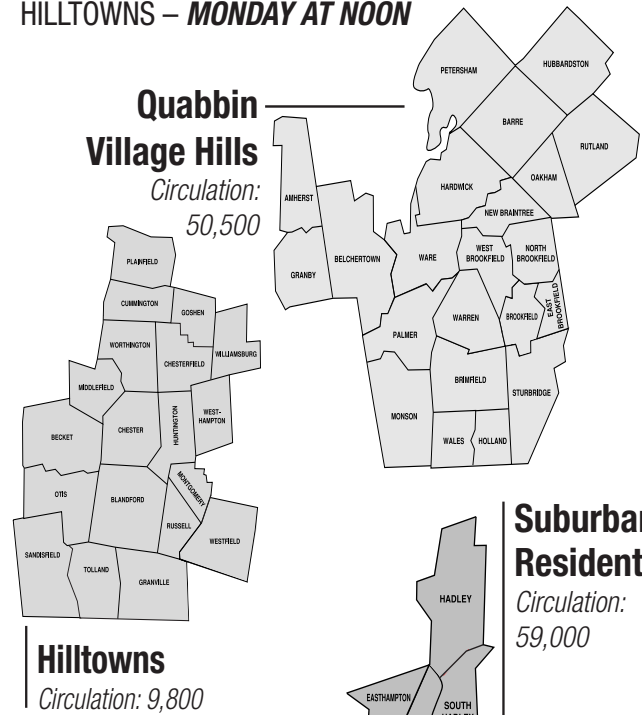
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33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

E-mail items to mharrison@turley.com or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

Editor's note: Due to the coronavirus pandemic, events featured in the Journal Register, including those previewed in stories, briefs and on the calendar page, may be canceled with little notice. The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times. Have an event to promote? Email the information (in a Word doc or as email text – no PDFs, please – to mharrison@turley.com).

NOW

DO YOU NEED OUTREACH ASSISTANCE? Call Holland Senior Center's Brenda Palmer, outreach coordinator, at 413-245-7108 ext. 115 or stop by the Center. Find out if you qualify for fuel or food assistance, transportation, as well as Aging in Place services. You might think you do not need it, but if you qualify for it, you certainly deserve it.

SOON

BOOK SIGNING: Chuck Nothe, a Monson native, author, and a Vietnam veteran will be signing his newest book, "Five Names on a Granite Slab" 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 24, on the patio at Monson Free Library. Not the donated 40 books the library will sell for \$25 with proceeds benefiting library programs. Although Nothe is a fiction writer, "Five Names on a Granite Slab" is a true story of the Monson, Massachusetts men killed in Vietnam. The book is also available in Kindle form and paperback on Amazon under the author's name, Charles Nothe.

AT THE HOLLAND LIBRARY: The Holland Library is now full re-opened. Hours are 3-8 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM: For residents 12 and younger, get your summer reading in and have a chance to win weekly prizes July 6-Aug. 28. Participation is easy, just follow these steps:

Visit the library to register and receive your kick-off bag with a reading log and fun summer stuff.

Read, or have a story read to you, for 20 minutes a day or more.

Place a sticker on your reading log each day you read.

Read five days a week, or more, and receive a WEEKLY PRIZE and a ticket for the GRAND PRIZE drawing!

Bring your reading log to the library, show us your reading stickers for the week, get your prize and ticket for the GP drawing!!

THEMED PROGRAMS:

Saturdays – July 10, Aug. 7

Thursdays – July 22, Aug. 19

Call the library for updates

Coming this Summer: Tails and Tales Children's Summer Reading Program. Follow the Library on Facebook. Join the Community Book Club: The book club will meet online via Zoom. Copies of the monthly book selection, in a variety of formats, are available for curbside checkout at the library. Contact the Holland Community Center for more information by calling them at 413-245-3163. Like them on Facebook for updates. To Join the Zoom meeting: Meeting ID: 736 9214 3025; Passcode: p95795.

SUMMER READING: The Holland Library has all the summer reading for Tantasqua High and Middle school students. Just ask at the desk!

SIGN UP NOW

POETRY WORKSHOP: Come and Write at the House of Art. A four-week poetry event sponsored by the Monson Arts Council on Monday evenings, Sept. 13, 20, 27 and Oct. 4 from 6:30-8:30. Fee for this special poetry event will be \$15 for all four sessions led by Monson poet Gay Paluch. The workshop will be a place where people write, share and explore types of poetry, search for places to publish, and learn to constructively critique poetry.

In 2011, Gay published her poems "Just This



Morning," illustrated in watercolors by the late Virginia Midyette. She has also been published in several journals, including Freshwater, Silkworm 10, 11 and 12, the Common Ground Review, and The Anthology of Found Poetry.

There will be a six person limit to attend this event. Sign up early! To register, email Maureen@godread.com or Maureen@monsonartscouncil.org.

ONGOING

CHURCH CABOOSE THRIFT SHOP: Will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays at the Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer. Bargains are available on household items, clothing, shoes, children's items, linens, books, crafts, puzzles, and games. Call 283-6958 for more information.

EVERYONE INVITED TO AQUACISE: The Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club at 91 Claudia's Way, Ludlow, offer Aquacise for residents of Monson, Palmer, Brimfield, Holland and Wales.

Aquacise will be offered 8-8:45 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Aquacise is a low-impact, full-body workout performed in the water to put less stress on your joints and muscles while building strength. To reserve a spot visit ludlowbgc.org and click on Adult Programs, or call Matt Thompson at 413-583-2072, ext. 122. For updates on the facility, register on the website to receive Club emails. The Club continues to make health and safety its No. 1 priority to ensure all visitors who enter the building have a clean and safe environment.

PALMER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FORCE: Consists of business owners, community members, survivors and allies. The Palmer Domestic Violence Task Force promotes education and awareness in the community while empowering, educating and providing resources to those who have been affected by domestic violence and/or intimate partner violence in Palmer or those who have found safety in Palmer. For help and meeting information, email palmerdvtf@gmail.com. All contact is confidential.

MUSIC LESSONS, YOGA AND MORE: Just because days are short, and the thermometer reads cold doesn't mean there's nothing to do. Hitchcock Academy constantly works with instructors to offer options to its community members. Look for upcoming classes in yoga, tai chi, meditation, and fencing. Hitchcock Academy follows all current COVID guidelines for cleaning and social distancing and anyone using the facility must wear a mask.

All information regarding current class offerings,

events, and registration are available at hitchcockacademy.org.

FREE FOOD PROGRAM: The Massachusetts Military Support Foundation has found a way to get food to families that need it. The Farmers to Families program, set up by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is part of a Coronavirus Food Assistance Program that help people all over the nation and has a site in Springfield open to all residents. The program will supply food kits with fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products and meat products that distributes package into family-sized boxes. You can register for your food kit at mmsfi.org. On the website choose "Springfield, Ma" as your pick up site and sign-up. Register for one week or all four with easy one time registration. Food kit includes fresh dairy, protein, and produce totaling 30+ pounds of food. Military families are encouraged to sign-up but registration is open to the public.

BOOKSTORE at the Unitarian Universalist Parish of Monson at the corner of Lincoln and Main streets in Monson is open the first Friday of every month from 5:30-7:30 p.m., the third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Books priced from 25 cents to \$1 each: fiction, nonfiction, thrillers, horror, mystery, science fiction, how-to, classic literature, children's books, romances, cookbooks, gardening books and more. All proceeds benefit the parish. Donations are accepted. Call Mary at 267-9952 for more information. While currently closed, we are anticipating reopening later this year.

LEARN ABOUT LOCAL HISTORY: Want to learn more about local history? The Elbow Plantation Historical Society is available for research and other information. They can be reached at elbowplantation@gmail.com. Send them your questions and comments and leave your preferred contact information and they will respond asap.

THE MONSON LIONS CLUB has a 20-foot x 20-foot tent for rent. The cost is \$75 for a two-day event. The club will put it up and take it down. For more details, contact Curt at 413-668-6653.

DAY SPRING LODGE A.F. & A.M. located 14 Bliss St., Monson is making its hall available for rent for \$75 for a variety of parties and functions. For reservations,, call Doug Battige at 413-267-5855 or 413-265-9398.

RESERVE YOUR CELEBRATION TENT now for your First Communion, bridal and baby showers, graduation parties, family reunions, birthday parties or any other kind of celebration you may have outdoors. The Palmer Lions Club has a tent for you, either 20-foot x 20-foot for \$125 or 20-foot x 40-foot for \$200. This includes setup and takedown in the Palmer area. Call Karen at 413-813-8445 to make a reservation. You may need to leave a message and your call will be returned. The Palmer Lions Club tent rental fees go to-

wards assistance for the people of Palmer, Bondsville, Three Rivers and Thorndike.

SALVATION ARMY ASSISTANCE: Residents of Palmer, Thorndike, Bondsville and Three Rivers seeking emergency help with fuel assistance, utility payments/shut off, food, and clothing can contact the Salvation Army in Canton, MA at 339-502-5900. This is the office located in Canton, MA. If eligible, staff there will be able to address your concerns and provide assistance until the local Palmer office is once again staffed by a volunteer outreach coordinator.

MAKE A DONATION to the Monson Free Library in honor of a special person or family member, in the form of a book, DVD or CD, audio book or magazine subscription. The person will receive a letter informing them of your gift. The cost of donations is \$25 for a book, \$20 for a CD or DVD, \$100 for an audio book and \$20 for a magazine subscription. For more information call 267-3866.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP Please join us at 6 p.m. every first Thursday of the month at Palmer Healthcare Center, 250 Shearer St. Palmer. Light refreshments will be served Contact Kate Martin at 413-283-8361 for more information.

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED Who is Jesus? What did he achieve? How should we respond? "Christianity Explored" is a study which seeks to answer these questions from the Gospel of Mark. The course involves seven weekly one-hour sessions using Bible study, related DVD viewing, and discussion of the pertinent passages. For more information contact Mal at 413-250-8548.

MONSON DEMOCRATS WANTED by the Monson Democratic Town Committee. Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month over Zoom. Contact Chair Karen Nothe-Valley at 413-846-3041 or karen_monsondemts@yahoo.com.

WEEKLY CLASSES at Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road, Holland. Mondays and Wednesdays lunch is served at noon, reservations required by calling 413-245-3163 and a \$2 donation is requested. Mondays at 10 a.m. is yoga class with Mah Jongg, and Monday evenings at 6 p.m. is Texas Hold 'Em. Tuesdays at 10 a.m. is the Coffee Social which is open to everyone, and Open Crafts are held on Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Zumba is held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Mah Jongg is at 1 p.m. and Yoga is at 5 p.m., plus Pitch at 6:30 p.m. Stained glass is every Thursday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. and Cribbage is weekly on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. Walking Club is on Thursdays at 4 p.m. The Billiard Room is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. For everyone. For more information, call 413-245-3163.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS is a nonprofit fellowship or society of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. The group is comprised of recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. Local meetings are held every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at The Living Room of Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Park St., Ware; every Monday at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 22 Green St., Monson; Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Belchertown United Congregational Church, 18 Park St., Belchertown; every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and the Palmer Historical & Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers; and every Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer. For more information or to find additional meetings throughout the New England area, visit www.nerna.org.

PALMER FOOD SHARE, INC., an emergency food pantry, is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Food Share is located at 39 Walnut St. in Palmer. Call 283-3614 with questions or to order to pick up food.

AL-ANON FRIDAY NIGHT BOOK STUDY meetings - a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve our common problems. We believe alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery. Al-Anon has one purpose, to help families and friends of alcoholics. The group meets Fridays at Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

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USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SPARE RIBS TWIN PAK.....	\$3 ⁵³ lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG	\$1 ⁸¹ lb
USDA INSP. FULLY COOKED ALEXANDER HORNING POLSKA KIELBASA 12 OZ.	\$2 ⁹⁹ lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS 10 LB BAG	\$2 ⁹⁹ lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN BABY BACK PORK RIBS SINGLE PAK.....	\$3 ⁸³ lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN SALMON PORTION SKINLESS.....	\$7 ⁹⁹ lb
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USDA INSP. STORE MADE ITALIAN MARINATED BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST	\$2 ⁹⁹ lb		
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